

# FIRST GOES DIX

Volume 12

Issue 127

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Photo: MV Fury in Boston harbour.  
Thanks to Anita-Louise McCormick  
for the photo

## In this issue:

- \* The raid on the MV Fury
- \* Radio Caroline latest news
- \* Orang Utan & Merlin: raided
- \* 675 Radio 10 Gold
- \* Technical Feature





# FRS GOES DX

## COLOPHON

'FRS GOES DX' is a bi-monthly magazine which informs about radio in general and **Free Radio** in particular. It's published by FRS-Holland, an independent short wave free radio station.

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Subscriptions always end in December. A year's subscription costs DM 33.00/ f 33.00/ £ 12.50 (Europe) or US\$ 22.00 (outside Europe). We accept payments \* in cash / \* by eurocheque (written out in **Dutch guilders**) / \* by Int. Money Order (at your local post office). Sample copies (once-only) cost DM 5.00/ f 5.00/ £ 2.00/ US\$ 3.00/ 4 IRC's or the equivalent in German/ Dutch stamps.

## ADVERTISING

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## MAILING ADDRESS

All correspondence should be sent to:  
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## SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Pirate Chat, Free DX, Pirate Pages, Freewave, Pirate Connection and the Radio Tape.

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**Deadline for contributions:**  
Friday April 15th 1994

This edition is circulated to readers in Europe, the U.S.A. and New Zealand.

## EDITORIAL

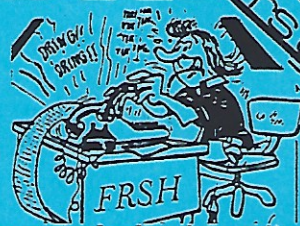
The first edition of 1994 is in front of you. It will be interesting to see how radio in 1994 will develop.

On the offshore front the first the first blows are dealt: the radioship MV Dury was raided. And what about Caroline? Still alive but not with the old spirit. The satellite programming doesn't attract a real large audience. The SW output on 6295 kHz isn't that regular at this very moment. Strong rumours circulate that Caroline founder Ronan O'Rahilly is setting up something new. AM? Satellite? Most important is there will be a solid programming worth listening to. When putting these words on paper my thoughts go unvoluntarily back to that memorable month of August 1983, almost 11 years ago. The format of Caroline was heavily criticized but now after all those years I honestly think it was real good radio on 963. Good radio, fun, listening pleasure: that's what it is all about. And then there's- no, I won't skip it- our beloved SW free radio. 1994 did

not start that good with raids on two stations. The number of SW stations is impressive, let's hope this will go hand in hand with the enjoyment you will have behind your receiver. A few new regular **programme** stations wouldn't be that bad I believe. There's one intangible phenomenon which could become a spoil-sport: propagation conditions. February saw a number of very bad sundays with conditions in normal cases only occurring in the summer period. This could seriously affect the SW free radio scene including both listeners and station OPs (where's the spirit when hardly receiving a handful of letters because of bad conditions?). I hope that each true SW supporter realizes it's more than ever important to **support** the stations as much as possible. That's the best guarantee stations continue. Ofcourse there's more. Many FRS GDX don't possess a satellite system but now prices fall ignominiously you can have your own set for less than DM 500/£ 200. I don't claim all satellite stations are worth listening to but I can assure this world is exciting with a varied programme offer. Give it a try. Good listening. 73's.

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# FRS NEWSCORNER

## BLUNDER...

Let's begin with an apology: in issue 126 you were kindly requested to cut the questionnaire form. But: we made a blunder! It was intended to print that questionnaire on pages 15/16 and not on 16/17. So Anssi Nieminen, you were right with your comments. Luckily most readers copied these 2 pages which were received with thanks. And for those who didn't participate so far: a separate sheet is enclosed in this mag, you can still forward it to Box 2727, please... The more people return their form, the better the insight will be into the SW listener's listening attitude. And believe me: it's very interesting to read all those opinions etc.

It was not feasible to process all info we received so far in time for publication in this issue. We can reveal that up till now (February 18th) an impressive number of forms have been received. We are also satisfied with the number of returned questionnaire forms with regard to this very magazine. And that brings us to the next subject:

## FRS GOES DX' FUTURE

In issue 126 we were proudly announcing further improvements as far as this mag is concerned. Don't worry, they will be carried out. Unfortunately we couldn't finish that job in time and that means you'll have to wait until the next issue. Nevertheless: it will be worth while to wait. And then this: the next issue is scheduled to come out in April (see page 2). However: due to an addition of the family, issue 128 could be arriving a bit later. Mind you: 1994 will see 6 issues!

## NEW READERS

Quite a number of readers have joined the 'club'. Welcome to all of you. We all hope that in 1994 FRS DX will offer you all you are hoping for. Remember: we are open to criticism. Ideas, suggestions etc. are highly appreciated.

## FRS-HOLLAND ACTIVITIES

Since the successful October transmission when FRS celebrated its 13th birthday, we experienced a number of disappointments. And this is contradictory to how things should have been! To explain: the good thing is that for the first time since ages FRS-Holland can be heard with a regular 3rd Sun format. For some of you perhaps a bit of a surprise. In the past few months FRS-Holland was active on the following dates: Sunday October 17th, Sunday December 5th, Sunday January 9th/16th and Sunday February 20th. The October trm: a highly successful one. Strange enough we even received for that one in January. All in all this broadcast produced some 75 letters! What more can you wish?

By the end of October we got a chance for 4 hour relays from the UK. The first relay should have been aired November 21st but due to serious circumstances totally beyond our control, that broadcast had to be cancelled and was moved to Sunday December 5th. Unfortunately conditions on this latter date were inferior in comparison with those of November 21st. Disappointing. And then December. The traditional annual FRS X-Mas Party was scheduled to take place for the 14th time in succession on Boxing Day December 26th. Private reasons

made it impossible to finish off the FRS programming and as a result there were-for the first time since 1980- no FRS X-Mas programmes. Many FRS friends have been checking the dial to look for FRS 'cause the 26th December trm was promoted on the FRS Newsletter #4 which was sent to more than 80 people. Once again a disappointment.

But after this set-back the FRS programme-team was determined to start the New Year with a "BANG". It must have been many years ago since we started the New Year with two traditional 3rd Sunday trms. In fact we must go back to 1989 that FRS hit the airwaves in January and February. An unscheduled trm was carried out Sun Jan. 9th between 11.45-13.00 UTC announcing the upcoming January 3rd Sunday trm. We started on 6219 but this channel wasn't very clear, so we switched to 5944 (this was announced live on air). Although 5944 wasn't too bad, there was slight interference from a powerhouse on 5955 and FRS briefly switched to 6229. The annoying thing was 6205 was free but the x-tal didn't oscillate on that frequency, so we finally ended where we started: 6219. Signal-strength was fair.

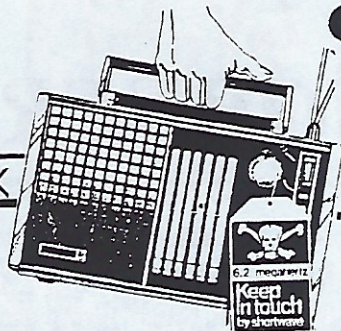
January 16th 1994 a 4 hour broadcast would go out on 7414. It was decided to choose the 41mb. Knowing the signal would be aired from the UK and that many German DXers tune in to our SW broadcasts 41 should do better than 48. In fact we were right: a very listenable signal was received in Germany with good strength but in one or another way conditions that day were weird. How can it be declared that in large parts of the Netherlands during the first 90 (and even 120) minutes no signal at all was to be received? Strange because we are in the middle of the winter and such conditions are usually occurring during summer periods! Was it skip or...? Looking at a few German reports the signal was indeed skipping over certain areas because at the same moment the signal seemed dead at the FRS qth, it was being received in good quality for instance in Northern Germany. And FRS was even received in Spain during most of the broadcast! So looking back at January we can say the choice of using 7414 and reaching parts of Germany in better quality compared with 48 was a good one. But on the other hand: conditions were partly spoil-sport! The January 16th broadcast was aired between 09.00- 13.00 and the first half hour was repeated between 13.00-13.30 UTC. The rest of the repeat didn't take place although it was intended to repeat the full broadcast till 17.00 UTC. February 6th and 13th conditions even got worse (see SW news section) and we were indeed afraid the planned February 20th broadcast would be subject to appalling conditions. Well, once again things were very confusing! At the moment this column is being compiled, no reports have been received because it was only two days ago that the broadcast took place. But fact is that once again (at least in large parts of the Netherlands) nothing was to be heard until approx. 11.00 UTC (while pxs commenced at 08.50 UTC!). And then suddenly a 7414 signal was received with good strength and much too low mod quality. Very sad because if the mod level would have been higher, it could have been a very solid and good signal. And that was that. Assessing the results of the first two months of 1994 it's clear these broadcasts didn't bring what we expected. We cannot blame the people operating the tx, that wouldn't be fair. But looking at the time-consuming preparations it gives a discouraging and unsatisfactory

To be continued on page 29 column 3!

FRS Newscorner



# SHORT WAVE SURVEY



SUNDAY DECEMBER 5th 1993

Freq Time Name of the station U.K. Cont. Remarks

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 27th 1993

3910	23.30	Radio Pirana	---	332	
3920	23.36	Radio Pirana	---	152	
6230	12.00	Unid	555	---	
6239	10.21	Radio Scottish M.	232	---	
6239	12.56	B.I.R.S.	433	---	
6295	08.38	Radio Caroline	555	333	

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 28th 1993

3910	16.03	Reflections Europe	555	---	
3915	00.20	Radio Pirana	---	333	
6200	09.30	Sunshine Radio	454	444	German
6200	10.46	Centre Radio	454	---	
6200	10.59	Radio Francis Drake	454	444	
6200	12.48	Radio Fantasy	555	433	
6205	16.02	Reflections Europe	555	---	
6210	10.00	Heavy Dude Radio	---	333	
6225	11.40	Emerald Radio	232	222	
6225	13.50	Weekend Music Radio	433	---	QSO with Ozone
6229	11.35	Jolly Roger Radio	242	222	
6234	10.40	Britain Radio	433	322	//7360
6239	07.20	R.Scottish Montreal	343	333	
6240	10.00	Unid	---	243	
6252	09.40	Radio Northsea	---	333	
6277	10.40	Ozone Radio	454	333	
6285	09.20	WGAS	242	333	bad mode
6289	12.45	Unid	---	222	Dutch, test
6295	08.44	Radio Caroline	544	---	
6305	11.25	Pamela	232	243	
7360	11.10	Britain Radio	444	---	
7484	09.14	Radio Waves	343	---	
11401	11.33	Unid (Waves?)	---	233	

SATURDAY DECEMBER 4th 1993

3912	23.46	Starshine Radio	---	142	
6240	10.23	Southern Music Radio	454	---	
6240	12.13	Radio Marabu	454	---	
6295	09.57	Radio Caroline	555	---	
6305	13.42	Pamela	454	---	

3910	10.09	Radio Jimmy	---	343	QSO to Delmare
3910	15.59	Reflections Europe	555	---	
3911	10.09	Radio Delmare	---	443	QSO to Jimmy
3913	10.14	Radio Moonlight	---	242	QSO to Delmare- 620010.46 Int. Music Radio

544 343

6200	11.41	Radio Wahnsinn	---	353	
6200	12.28	Radio Popcorn	---	353	
6205	10.25	Unid	555	322	non-stop mx
6205	16.00	Reflections Europe	555	---	
6210	11.00	Ozone Radio	343	322	
6229	09.52	Jolly Roger Radio	454	333	
6239	08.55	BIRS	---	433	loop tape
6239	10.09	Marabu	555	243	
6255	10.02	East Coast Commercial	433	433	
6280	10.34	FRSH	222	322	
6285	12.20	Unid	---	242	Lowland?
6295	10.01	Radio Caroline	555	443	
7294	11.15	Radio Europe	---	444	
7412	11.32	Subterranean Sounds	343	443	
7432	10.00	Unid	---	222	jazz, weak audio
7480	09.24	Unid	242	---	Mod tests
7485	09.25	Starshine Radio	242	---	
7485	09.55	Waves	444	333	
7485	11.26	Southern Music Radio	433	---	
9420	10.15	R.Europa Int.	---	333	
11401	11.14	Southern Music Radio	---	253	

SATURDAY DECEMBER 11th 1993

3915	23.00	Pirate Radio Boston	---	222	Euro relay
6237	10.04	Unid	322	---	
6239	09.23	Radio Merlin	454	343	
6295	09.22	Radio Caroline	444	433	
7294	09.20	Radio Europe	---	444	

SUNDAY DECEMBER 12th 1993

3024	01.02	Green Music	---	343	Russian, talk
3910	00.42	Live Wire	---	444	test
3910	16.01	Reflections Europe	1--	---	
6205	16.00	Reflections Europe	555	---	
6210	09.15	Heavy Dude	---	422	
6210	09.35	Radio Diamond	1--	243	
6210	10.35	Ozone Radio	333	---	
6229	09.36	Jolly Roger Radio	242	222	
6239	09.01	Citadel Radio	242	343	Via BIRS
6239	11.06	Southern Music Radio	454	333	Via BIRS
6239	12.47	BIRS	454	---	station ID
6252	12.19	Northsea	---	233	final show on SW
6252	12.20	Radio Illusion	---	232	
6270	11.07	Unid	1--	---	



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## SUNDAY DECEMBER 12th 1993 (Cont.)

6280	11.20	Ozone Radio	343	222	
	13.43	Unid	---	222	German polka mx
6295	10.03	Radio Caroline	555	343	
6305	10.46	Radio Pamela	444	333	
7411	11.28	Subterranean Sounds	232	243	
7432	10.23	Unid	---	222	non stop instrum.
7473	08.29	Radio Waves	---	322	
7475	07.39	Radio Waves	---	332	
7484	08.28	Marabu	---	333	
9420	09.20	R.Europa Int.	---	333	
11401	10.30	Radio Waves	---	444	

## SATURDAY DECEMBER 18th 1993

3910	23.57	Unid	--2	---	
3915	23.30	Free Radio Norway	---	--4	
6200	12.22	Orang Utan	--4	233	
6239	10.08	BIRS	343	333	Luxembourg story
6239	13.09	Optimod	544	---	
6239	14.57	Inner City Radio	--4	---	
6288	14.27	Unid	--1	---	
6295	12.25	Radio Fox	--3	---	
7294	11.31	Radio Europe	--4	---	

## SUNDAY DECEMBER 19th 1993

3910	16.01	Reflections Europe	454	---	
3920	16.30	Pirana	--3	---	USB
3920	16.31	Live Wire	--4	---	USB
3920	16.32	Weekend Music Radio	--4	---	USB
3935	13.01	Radio Caroline	555	---	
6200	09.17	Radio Titanic	555	353	
6200	11.37	Radio Popcorn	555	353	
6205	13.39	Weekend Music Radio	555	---	QSO with Ozone
6205	16.00	Reflections Europe	454	---	
6210	10.29	Ozone Radio	454	---	
6210	14.00	Sierra Foxtrot 03	--2	---	
6229	09.19	Jolly Roger Radio	454	---	continuous music
6234	12.04	Britain Radio	444	---	
6237	09.33	Unid (Dutch)	--3	---	
6239	10.50	Unid	454	---	Via BIRS
6239	11.02	BIRS	343	333	
6239	11.12	Optimod	454	---	
					6239 14.22 Merlin
	555	---			
6240	09.38	Telstar	343	---	
6257	10.40	Free Radio Norway	---	333	test
6270	13.32	Reflex	--4	---	
6282	10.30	Star Club	--2	243	
6285	13.09	Unid	--2	---	
6295	10.51	Radio Pamela	454	232	
7359	10.57	Radio Vanessa	--3	333	birthday party

7411	11.15	Subterranean Sounds	--3	333
7480	09.50	Radio Benelux	---	353
7484	10.08	Radio Waves	343	333
11401	12.33	Waves	---	--3

## FRIDAY DECEMBER 24th 1993

3905	23.49	Safari	--3	---	
6229	10.52	Jolly Roger	--3	---	
6234	13.22	Unid	444	443	Britain Radio?
6274	11.48	Orion	343	443	
6285	12.52	Unid	---	243	
6295	11.49	Radio Caroline	242	333	

## SATURDAY DECEMBER 25th 1993

3911	16.50	XMAS Radio	---	444	See news
3920	23.07	Radio Pirana	--3	232	
3945	10.51	Weekend Music Radio	353	---	See news
6200	09.16	Orang Utan	454	343	
6200	11.48	CLCG	444	343	Via ROU
6200	12.12	Starclub Radio	--4	343	Via ROU
6210	09.51	Unid	343	---	
6210	10.21	Weekend Music Radio	454	232	
6210	11.46	Radio London	454	--3	(Via WMR)
6210	14.23	Sierra Foxtrot 03	--2	---	
6210	14.34	Live Wire	454	---	QSO with WMR
6219	11.21	Angel	--3	---	
6220	10.30	WNKR	343	---	
6229	09.33	Jolly Roger Radio	242	222	
6234	09.35	Britain Radio	454	333	//7360
6240	09.45	Weekend Music Radio	---	433	
6255	09.05	East Coast Commc.	454	333	
6265	13.12	Radio Safari	---	243	See news
6270	10.41	Ozone	454	---	
6270	11.45	Süd West Radio	---	333	test
6275	08.22	Delta	555	243	See news
6275	09.04	Orion (?)	232	---	
6275	11.48	Orion	454	---	
6281	11.49	Mebo Info System	---	222	
6285	10.01	WNKR	---	232	
6285	10.25	Unid	---	332	Nordlicht?
6285	10.50	Süd West Radio	---	444	
6295	09.04	Caroline	454	333	
6475	11.28	Unid	---	333	techno mx/LSB
6555	10.50	Brigitte	---	444	
7294	09.00	R.Europa	---	444	
7294	10.30	Marabu	---	444	
7294	11.10	R.Peace in Action	---	444	
7358	12.20	Pacman	---	343	
7360	09.36	Britain Radio	242	443	
7379	09.15	Idea Radio	---	333	
7410	08.50	Pacman	---	333	



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SATURDAY DECEMBER 25th 1993 (Cont.)

10.45	Unid	---	232	bad mode
7484 12.56	Radio Waves	---	322	
7558 12.44	XMAS Radio	---	444	
9985 09.00	Marabu	----	222	
11401 10.00	Waves	---	353	

SUNDAY DECEMBER 26th 1993

3910 16.01	Reflections Europe	343	322	
3911 17.02	XMAS Radio	---	422	
3915 00.12	Pirana	---	242	
3915 01.49	R.Without Borders	---	--1	
3915 10.30	Paradise	---	333	test
3920 17.03	Pirana	--3	443	
3925 17.08	Utopia	--4	---	
3927 17.23	Weekend Music Radio	--3	---	
3927 17.23	Live Wire Radio	--4	---	
3945 09.13	Weekend Music Radio	433	232	
3945 16.06	Utopia	--3	---	See news
3945 16.27	Live Wire Radio	--4	---	
6200 09.44	Wahnsinn	454	343	Via Orang Utan
6200 10.50	Radio Popcorn=CLCG	454	343	Via Orang Utan
6205 16.00	Reflections Europe	555	444	
6215 13.35	Unid	---	232	
6220 11.22	Angel FM	444	---	
6225 10.36	Radio USA	---	232	
6229 09.43	Jolly Roger Radio	454	222	
6229 12.11	Britain Radio	555	---	Via JRR
6238 14.28	Radio Reflex	555	444	
6239 10.36	Radio London	555	433	Via BIRS
6239 12.59	Optimod	454	---	Via BIRS
6239 13.30	Overflow Int.	444	333	Via BIRS
6239 17.11	Liberty 57	---	---	political
6240 09.11	Weekend Music Radio	433	243	
6252 09.12	Radio Northsea	---	333	See news
6255 10.50	Free Radio Norway	454	322	test
6255 11.15	Weekend Music Radio	454	333	
6255 13.50	Pirana	---	232	
6259 09.23	Driland	---	222	
6267 08.37	Transatlantic Radio	232	333	
6280 10.35	Weekend Music Radio	555	433	
6281 10.05	Radio Wahnsinn	---	232	
6295 09.55	Radio Caroline	555	433	
6300 10.34	Radio London	343	333	Via BIRS
6300 14.48	Overflow Int.	---	222	
6525 09.48	Radio Mike	454	443	
7483 09.35	Waves	---	222	
7558 12.25	XMAS Radio	---	444	
11401 09.15	Waves	---	333	

MONDAY DECEMBER 27th 1993

3915 00.03	Unid	--3	---	
3920 00.14	Radio Mata Hari	---	343	
6200 11.07	Weekend Music Radio	555	443	
6219 12.00	Angel	--3	---	
6220 13.30	Unid	242	---	
6229 09.29	Britain Radio	343	---	Via Jolly Roger
6229 12.53	Jolly Roger	555	---	
6239 07.45	R.Scottish Montreal	---	433	politics/BIRS
6239 08.46	Radio Merlin	454	443	Via BIRS
6239 14.45	Radio London	555	---	Via BIRS
6280 11.14	Musicnet Int.	343	---	
6295 10.52	Unid	555	---	carrier
6300 11.08	Radio Merlin	343	332	Via BIRS
6300 14.44	Radio London	353	---	Via BIRS

TUESDAY DECEMBER 28th

3905 22.05	Süd West Radio	---	--2	See news
3910 00.21	Radio Not-Fax	---	343	
3910 22.20	Süd West Radio	---	--3	
3910 00.57	Live Wire	---	353	
6229 10.00	Jolly Roger Radio	242	---	
6239 08.42	R.Scottish Montreal	454	433	Via BIRS
6239 08.44	Radio London	454	232	Via BIRS
6239 09.33	R.Scottish Montreal	454	433	Via BIRS
6239 10.35	BIRS	454	---	
6239 13.26	Radio Merlin	454	---	Via BIRS
6239 15.05	Southern Music Radio	--3	---	
6300 08.51	Optimod	343	232	Via BIRS
6300 13.07	Radio Merlin	--2	---	
6300 15.09	Southern Music Radio	--2	---	

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 29th 1993

3910 00.25	Live Wire	--4	---	
3910 01.27	Sierra Foxtrot 03	--3	---	
3910 01.27	Pirana	--3	---	
3910 01.39	Starshine Radio	--2	---	
3913 00.14	Starshine Radio	---	222	
6229 10.27	Jolly Roger Radio	242	---	
6239 10.30	Radio Merlin	555	---	

THURSDAY DECEMBER 30th 1993

6239 09.30	Overflow Int.	454	---	Via BIRS
6239 11.44	Merlin	444	---	Via BIRS
6290 10.58	Orion	444	---	
6305 13.23	Pamela	242	---	



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## FRIDAY DECEMBER 31st 1993

3910	11.37	Reflections Europe	242	---	
6205	11.36	Reflections Europe	555	243	
6229	12.49	Jolly Roger	242	---	
6290	11.25	XTC	454	243	
6300	10.33	Radio London	232	---	Via BIRS
6305	10.38	Unid (Pamela?)	---	132	
6557	11.38	Brigitte	1--	---	
7420	14.15	Unid	--	343	
12265	11.23	Reflections Europe	---	243	

## SATURDAY JANUARY 1st 1994

3910	00.44	Unid	---	343	
3915	00.45	Pirana	---	343	
3945	09.31	Weekend Music Radio	444	222	
6200	09.33	Int. Music R.	555	343	Via Orang Utan
6200	11.45	Onda Caliente	---	444	"Hot Wave"
6200	11.51	Orang Utan	---	444	non stop
6205	09.37	Karibu	---	322	test
6210	13.29	Weekend Music Radio	---	343	phone-in
6210	15.45	Radio Pandora	---	343	Via WMR
6220	10.04	Angel FM	343	---	
6229	09.47	Jolly Roger Radio	1--	222	
6229	11.33	Britain Radio	343	232	Via Jolly Roger
6234	10.15	Britain Radio	1--	243	//7360
6239	10.13	Radio London	343	433	Via BIRS
6239	12.40	Citadel Radio	444	333	Via BIRS
6239	15.55	R.Scottish Montreal	---	322	
6240	09.26	Weekend Music Radio	343	443	
6240	09.35	Pirana	---	311	
6256	12.43	XTC (?)	---	222	
6290	08.55	Orion	---	333	
6295	10.56	Pamela	242	343	
6300	11.35	Radio London	444	333	Via BIRS
6300	12.41	Citadel Radio	242	333	Via BIRS
6306	11.15	La Voz del CID	---	232	Spanish, politics
6557	11.34	Brigitte	1--	433	
7294	09.40	R.Europe	---	444	
7360	11.06	Britain Radio	454	343	//6234

## SUNDAY JANUARY 2nd 1994

3910	16.01	Reflections Europe	343	---	
3945	10.17	Weekend Music Radio	242	242	
5871	11.30	Pamela	---	333	
6200	09.23	Radio Wahnsinn	343	443	
6200	11.40	Sunshine Radio	343	443	
6200	12.55	Radio Perfekt	---	444	
6205	16.00	Reflections Europe	555	---	
6210	10.16	Weekend Music Radio	555	243	//3945
6210	14.10	Radio Gloria	---	232	QSO to WMR

6210	14.12	Station Sierra Foxtr.	---	222	QSO to WMR
6215	09.04	Unid	---	232	
6219	13.55	Radio Amsterdam	---	332	QSO
6225	09.46	Radio Experimental	454	222	
6229	09.22	Jolly Roger Radio	343	232	
6233	09.24	R.Speranza, Modena	---	322	It,see news
6236	13.50	Radio Reflex	---	444	QSO, test
6239	08.45	Radio Galaxy, UK	---	333	Via BIRS
6239	08.53	Radio Marabu	343	433	Via BIRS
6239	13.13	BIRS	444	322	
6239	14.40	Radio Merlin	454	---	Via BIRS
6250	10.32	Ozone	343	333	
6267	09.11	Transatlantic Radio	232	422	See news
6270	10.28	Radio Pirana	232	333	
6284	09.10	Radio Lowland	242	243	See news
6295	09.04	WGAS	232	443	See news
6300	08.45	Galaxy	---	222	Via BIRS
6300	09.24	Radio Marabu	242	333	Via BIRS
6300	13.14	BIRS	1--	322	See news
6300	14.41	Radio Merlin	232	322	Via BIRS
6390	10.10	Unid (Dutch)	---	222	polka sound
7294	09.10	Radio Europe	---	444	
7295	11.03	CLCG	---	343	See news
7410	10.15	Pacman	343	243	
7411	11.16	Subterranean Sounds	343	444	
7484	09.50	Unid	1--	333	Via Waves
7484	09.59	Radio Waves	242	333	
7484	10.02	Radio 75	343	333	Via Waves, Rus
9985	11.50	Radio Marabu	---	443	
11401	09.25	Waves	---	444	//7484
11401	09.45	Radio 75	---	444	//7484

## MONDAY JANUARY 3rd 1994

6220	11.23	Unid	1--	---	
6239	08.58	Radio London	444	---	Via BIRS
6239	11.06	BIRS	454	---	
6239	11.15	Southern Music Radio	454	---	See news

## SATURDAY JANUARY 8th 1994

6239	09.30	Overflow	555	---	Via BIRS
6239	13.30	Merlin	555	243	Via BIRS

## SUNDAY JANUARY 9th 1994

3910	00.25	Radio Pirana	---	243	
5944	12.15	FRS Holland	---	333	See FRS Newsc.
6200	12.31	Radio Moonlight	---	343	
6201	10.15	Radio Free London	454	232	old programme
6205	10.21	Unid (Diamond?)	---	253	non-stop oldies
6210	09.56	Unid	232	---	
6211	09.27	Radio Diamond	---	444	



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## SUNDAY JANUARY 9th 1994 (Cont.)

6219	12.28	FRS Holland	---	443	
6220	10.14	Angel FM	454	232	
6229	12.23	FRS Holland	---	443	
6233	11.23	Unid	---	242	music, low mode
6237	12.26	Radio Reflex	---	444	
6239	08.50	R.Scottish Montreal	444	333	Via BIRS
6239	09.09	BIRS	444	---	
6239	09.16	Optimod	444	433	Via BIRS
6239	15.30	Radio Merlin	---	333	
6255	10.45	East Coast Commercial	555	443	
6270	09.18	Welle Wahnsinn	---	333	
6280	09.31	Unid	---	333	German
6285	11.55	Swedish SW Relay Service	---	233	
6285	12.32	Safari	---	333	
6288	10.06	Radio Rabbit	1--	433	
6295	10.39	Pamela	444	232	
6546	11.25	Unid	---	444	Italian
7295	11.00	CLCG/Tom's Music R.	---	422	See news
7295	12.26	Dutchboy	---	422	
7474	12.30	Exile	---	443	live show?!
7480	09.49	Unid (BNL?)	---	353	German
7484	08.18	Radio Waves	242	433	
7484	09.49	Unid	---	333	Italian
7484	11.10	Southern Music	---	232	
11401	09.18	Radio Waves	---	443	
11401	11.10	Southern Music	---	443	

## SATURDAY JANUARY 15th 1994

6200	10.20	Moonlight	---	333	
6220	09.50	Angel	---	222	
6239	09.45	Optimod	---	433	
6239	10.48	BIRS	343	---	
6295	10.49	Caroline	444	443	
7294	10.35	Marabu	---	444	

## SUNDAY JANUARY 16th 1994

3910	16.02	Reflections Europe	343	---	
6200	09.07	Orang Utan	555	443	raided!
6205	16.01	Reflections Europe	555	---	
6210	11.10	Ozone	242	222	
6220	11.40	Angel FM	242	---	
6225	10.21	Emerald Radio	444	222	
6229	09.38	Jolly Roger Radio	454	222	
6239	08.18	BIRS	---	333	loop tape
6239	09.39	Merlin	444	433	Via BIRS
6250	10.35	Ozone	444	322	
6280	11.35	Good Music Radio	---	232	
6295	12.10	Pamela	---	343	

6911	10.24	Radio Dublin	342	---	very low
7294	10.45	Europe	---	444	
7294	11.00	Marabu	---	444	
7414	09.01	FRS Holland	---	444	
7422	11.01	Pirate Radio Boston	---	332	
7474	12.05	Exile	---	322	
12265	11.46	Wrekin' Radio	---	243	

## SATURDAY JANUARY 22nd 1994

3905	23.25	Süd West Radio	---	444	
6238	08.55	Radio Wahnsinn	---	333	
6239	09.35	BIRS	---	333	
6239	10.05	Overflow	555	333	
6275	12.04	XTC	454	---	See news
6276	09.40	Unid	---	322	
6911	11.55	Radio Dublin	433	---	See news

## SUNDAY JANUARY 23rd 1994

3910	16.00	Reflections Europe	555	---	
6200	11.01	Unid	---	243	non stop music
6205	10.00	Radio KAOS	---	444	
6205	16.00	Reflections Europe	555	---	
6220	11.30	Angel	555	232	See news
6229	09.23	Jolly Roger	555	232	low mode
6231	11.38	Britain Radio	555	444	
6239	08.50	Merlin	555	433	
6252	09.24	Radio Illusion	---	333	
6258	09.26	Silverbird	---	232	See news
6259	11.40	Unid	---	333	tx trouble
6270	10.35	Welle Wahnsinn	---	222	
6275	13.36	Pirana	---	333	
6280	08.51	WGAS	555	443	
6290	11.20	XTC	555	433	
6295	11.51	Unid	---	242	FR logs/mx
6911	09.00	Radio Dublin	552	443	very low mode
7360	11.40	Britain Radio	---	343	//6231
7380	08.55	Idea Radio	---	433	

## SATURDAY JANUARY 29th 1994

6200	12.03	Delta	544	---	
6239	08.26	Radio Wahnsinn	242	---	
6239	11.37	Radio Scottish Montreal	555	---	

## SUNDAY JANUARY 30th 1994

3910	16.01	Reflections Europe	555	---	
6205	16.00	Reflections Europe	454	---	
6210	09.26	Dr. Tim	454	---	
6210	10.39	Ozone	454	---	



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## SUNDAY JANUARY 30th 1994 (Cont.)

6220	11.35	Angel FM	242	---	
6225	09.01	Emerald Radio	544	---	
6229	10.10	Jolly Roger	544	---	
6239	08.07	Radio Scottish M.	343	---	
6239	09.47	Radio Wahnsinn	343	242	
6239	11.11	Radio Merlin	454	---	
6255	10.02	Pirana	---	253	
6295	08.35	Radio Caroline	555	---	
6910	09.06	Radio Dublin	553	--1	very weak
7480	09.48	Radio Benelux	1--	243	

## SATURDAY FEBRUARY 5th 1994

6200	10.21	Delta Bravo	---	253	
6211	11.42	Radio Diamond	---	353	
6910	16.05	Radio Dublin	552	---	

## SUNDAY FEBRUARY 6th 1994

3910	15.59	Reflections Europe	232	---	
6200	10.32	Delta (Ruurlo)	232	243	Testing
6220	12.43	Angel FM?	1--	---	
6225	11.15	Emerald Radio	---	243	
6229	12.39	Jolly Roger Radio	232	142	
6230	10.18	Unid	---	142	Briefly heard
6240	12.44	BBMS	242	---	See news
6255	12.01	Radio City	---	233	
6255	12.38	East Coast Commercial	343	142	
6260	09.07	Unid	242	---	
6275	11.40	Radio Safari	---	233	
6285	10.43	WGAS	---	243	
6295	12.40	Caroline	444	243	continuous music

## SATURDAY FEBRUARY 12th 1994 (\*)

6295	11.47	Radio Caroline	131	---	
------	-------	----------------	-----	-----	--

## SUNDAY FEBRUARY 13th 1994 (\*)

3910	17.25	Reflections	343	---	
6205	16.00	Reflections	454	---	
6211	10.10	Radio Diamond	444		
6220	10.43	Laser Hot Hits	242	---	
6225	09.20	Emerald Radio?	--1	---	
6229	09.30	JRR	454	---	
6270	09.43	Unid	--1	---	
6285	10.11	Unid	--1	---	
6290	12.38	Subterranean Sounds	232	344	
6400	13.12	Unid	--1	---	

### GENERAL

First at all some statistics about the activity in SW free radio land in the months of December/January. It's

interesting to make a comparison between 1991, 1992 and 1993. Draw your own conclusions!

1991	1992	1993
22-12: 25	20-12: 30	19-12: 11.
25-12: 26	25-12: 38	25-12: 23.
26-12: 31	26-12: 32	26-12: 24.
29-12: 24	27-12: 36	-----
01-01: 16	01-01: 16	01-01: 17.
-----	-----	02-01: 27.

Looking at the X-Mas period the conclusion is that X-Mas 1993 didn't bring as much activity as 1992/1991. The number of stations broadcasting on New Year's Day remained more or less stable.

Conditions have been unstable and on a few sundays even poor. If this was the case during the summer period, it would not evoke much astonishment. But: we're in the middle of winter-time! - January 16th saw very strange conditions. As an example we take FRSH's signal: in Holland reception was possible after 10.15 UTC- in some parts of the country even later- while the broadcast started at 08.50 UTC. In Germany reception on 7415 was fair/good and FRSH was even received in Spain. But there was no talk of signal remaining stable for most of that 4 hour broadcast. Things got worse February 6th. Comment from one of our loggers: "What a complete waste of a Sunday morning." And he was right. A number of people didn't even hear one single station on the various bands!! And looking at the logging lists from that first February sunday the conclusion is that only a handful of stations were received. Skip must have been rather large, otherwise it cannot be explained why certain loggers didn't receive a number of UK-based stations while at the same moment our logger from Berlin received stations he usually never receives... Dead zones during winter-time. Is this 1994?? Sun February 13th things were slightly better but all in all still rather poor. Only a handful of stations were logged with no impressive signals.

**RADIO ORANG UTAN** is the most regular Dutch SW free radio station at present time. In the past 6 months Radio Orang Utan has developed into an important and at the same time popular (that comes as no surprise: you get value for your money as ROU always has a strong signal) relay station for several German operations such as Radio Wahnsinn, Radio CLCG, Radio Perfect, Dr. Tim, Star Club Radio, Sunshine Radio and Radio Francis Drake. Outside Germany for instance International Music Radio is being noted on 6201. Generally speaking Orang Utan's tx has been active 3 out of 4 Sundays! Such activity is very high according to Dutch standards. Sunday December 12th was the only one with no 6201 signal being heard. On the 19th Radio Titanic Int. was heard with a repeat of the 18th birthday (135 minutes) and a relay of Radio CLCG (= Radio Popcorn). December 25th saw further relays of Star Club Radio, CLCG apart from Radio Orang Utan's own show. On Boxing Day Radio Wahnsinn's and Radio CLCG's turn. The New Year started with relays of IMR, Onda Caliente (=Hot Wave) and a Radio Orang Utan programme (January 1st) and relays of Radio Wahnsinn,



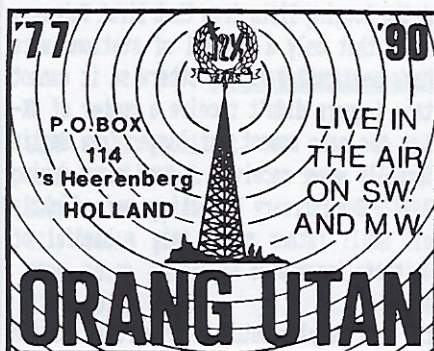
# <FRS GOES DX> the magazine for the free radio enthusiast

Sunshine Radio and Radio Perfect Sunday January 2nd. During all broadcasts 6201 was the frequency and signals were- as usual- solid.

Sunday January 16th was a black day for Radio Orang Utan. Not too long after 10.00 UTC the station was raided by Dutch police in cooperation with the OCD (was formerly RCD). Transmitting equipment (tx, modulator), a cassette deck and a few tapes were confiscated. The raid came when ROU was airing its fixed 3rd Sunday music programme, usually lasting till 11.00 UTC. Two relays (Radio Wahnsinn and Radio Northsea) had to be cancelled but perhaps these will be aired sometime in the future provided the station returns. We wish Freddie all the best and hopefully he will succeed in getting back on 48 metres. Knowing him it will happen!!

Address for ROU is P.O.Box 114, 7040 AC 's-Heerenberg in Holland.

Latest news: according to one of our sources ROU tested a new tx on Sun January 30th late in the afternoon (approx. 14.00 UTC). Only 35W were used though the tx is capable of running much more power.



SUBTERRANEAN SOUNDS produced some fine signals on 7411 in December/January. The station wasn't very active over the X-Mas period. Prior to X-Mas broadcasts were noted December 5th, 12th and 19th. Sun January 2nd the first 1994 broadcast took place featuring a musical survey of 1993 once again on 7411/41 metres. Sun February 13th the station was one of the very few being heard at the FRS gth. A fair/good signal was noted on 6290. The programme carried a talk-orientated format varied with pop music. Address is (3).

RADIO EAST COAST COMMERCIAL aired its traditional X-Mas broadcast December 25th on 6255 khz. Despite the low power signal quality on the

continent was good and phone-ins were part of the show. The 1st Sun of the month schedule wasn't valid in January when RECC could be heard January 9th instead of the 2nd. Reason for this 7 day delay could be the fact the January 1994 broadcast was too close to the X-mas broadcast. February 6th several people must have been thinking RECC wasn't on. Only noise on 6255. The contrary was true: RECC was carrying out its regular February broadcast but wasn't simply audible on a number of locations. Fact is RECC was NOT received in parts of the Netherlands and at the location of our French logger (north west France) while in the UK the station was received after 12.30 UTC. Address is K-Plats 9-11, Church Street, Cromer, Norfolk NR27 9ER in the UK.

Last issue we informed you about OZONE RADIO making use of several frequencies in November/December. To continue this story: Dec. 12th 6270 was in use and Jan. 2nd 6250. The station was inactive over the X-Mas period. January 30th Ozone popped up on 6210 kHz. Address is (3).

FREE RADIO NORWAY is a new Norwegian (?) station making its debut broadcast Sun Dec. 19th on 6257. Boxing Day the station was noted on 6255. During both occasions a fair signal was received on the continent. The Wuppertal address is in use (1). We'd like to know more about this new station. Who is able to help?

RADIO VANESSA was heard with a Birthday show Dec. 19th on 7359, a rather unusual but nevertheless good frequency usually only in use by Britain Radio Int. Just before 12.00 CET the trm ended. Signal-quality was fair. Congratulations to the people behind the station for another year on SW. Add is P.O.Box 386, 5900 AJ Venlo in the Netherlands.

Mention a station only to be heard over the X-Mas

period. There's only one possibility: X-MAS RADIO. This controversial Dutch station-operations were started in 1989- always makes tongues go wagging and that's 100% a result of the station's controversial programme output. And 1993 was no exception... December 25th saw the station on 3911 in the afternoon/evening. Most of the afternoon pxs went out on 7558. This time no people were insulted. The contents of the pxs consisted of extracts from Dutch phone sex lines. The ones you have to pay for. The X-Mas audience got it all without spending a pfennig... Dec. 26th 7558 was again noted with a strong signal along with 3911 in the evening hours causing a heterodyne because Reflections Europe was also active on 3910! An address in Bulgaria was being read out: Radio Aura, American University, Bulgaria 2700.

BRITAIN RADIO INT.'s X-Mas programming went out Dec. 25th on 6234//7360 with good signals on both frequencies. Dec. 27th, a Bank Holiday Monday in Great Britain, BRI was heard on 6229, most likely via the facilities of Jolly Roger Radio. New Year's Day BRI was heard on 6229 (JRR) and on 6234//7360. It's obvious BRI is definitely back on SW following the successful Birthday programming in October!! Sun January 23rd BRI's fixed 4th Sun of the month trm was noted on 6231//7360. On both channels good signals were noted. Address is (3) & (4).

RADIO PACMAN from Holland was heard calling CQ to BRI Dec. 25th on 7358. Earlier that same day the station operated on 7410 with a fair signal. January 2nd Pacman was



Frequencies in kHz: 6220 6275 7360 7375 7400 7495.

Radio Vanessa, Postbus 386, NL-5900 AJ Venlo, Nederland.

**Short Wave News**



gso-ing with Subterranean Sounds on 7410. Address is P.O.Box 103, 8120 AC Olst in Holland.

**RADIO MARABU** from Germany was noted on 7295 via a very strong relay outlet Dec. 25th. That same day 9985 (!) was in use with weak signals being heard at 00.25 and 09.00 UTC. January 2nd Marabu was relayed via the Belgian Int. Relay Service on 6238.5 kHz/6300 and that same day another 9985 broadcast took place. A very unusual frequency these days!

6238.5 (20W) is doing very well on the continent, 6300 is noticeably weaker. Another 6239 trm was aired Jan. 4th. Finally we mention Jan. 15th/16th when Radio Marabu was on 7294 in USB. For the full Marabu programme schedule please take a look inside issue 126. Address is (1).

## RADIO MARABU

Box 220342, D-42373 Wuppertal, Tel/Fax 0541/186713  
Eurowide on shortwave and satellite, local on FM via various radio stations at Paris, Toulouse, Roubaix, Lille, Lesneven, Viitasaari, Brussels, Copenhagen, South Tyrol, Porto, Zürich and others  
Make the connection and send us your releases or just ask for our programme schedule  
**We play 100% alternative music!**

The **BELGIAN INTERNATIONAL RELAY SERVICE** can be heard each weekend on 6238.5 kHz with a solid, well modulated signal on the continent. X-Mas Day 6238.5 was silent, on Boxing Day pxs from Overflow Radio, Radio London Int. and a station calling itself Liberty 57 were heard. That day a second tx was operated on 6300, however, signal-strength of this second tx was significantly weaker compared with the one on 6238. Between December 26th and Sun Jan. 2nd the BIRS tx was every day active except on the last day of 1993. One interesting show via BIRS is Optimod, a media programme which is very informative to any SW free radio DX-er. Address is (5).

**RADIO MERLIN INT.** is very closely connected to the BIRS. Merlin was heard on the following dates: Dec. 27th, 28th and 29th. In January on the 4th, 5th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 12th, 14th, 16th & 23rd. At approx. 12 noon on Sunday January 30th Radio Merlin was raided for the 3rd time when R.I.S. and police smashed down the front door of Paul Watts' house with a sledgehammer. Two SW txs were removed plus all the studio equipment. Paul tells he is charged under the Wireless Telegraphy Act of 1949 and the 1984

Telecom Bill. Txs to Andy Walker for informing us so quickly!! As a result the 6239 trms of the BIRS were not heard on February 6th and 13th. We'll keep you informed and will publish new facts in the April edition. Address of RMI is: (5).

**RADIO PIRANA** has been active on a variety of frequencies within the 76 and 48 mb. Too many to mention. New Year's Day a 4 hour show was aired between 16-20 UTC on 3925 kHz with apower of approx. 100W. Sun Jan. 23rd saw Pirana on 6275 and according to one of our loggers Pirana was also briefly noted on 6255 Sun Jan. 30th. For the rest: have a look in the FRS Logbook. Address is now (1).

**LIVE WIRE RADIO** carried out a test with a rock format on 3910 in the very early hours of Sun December 12th. A strong signal was heard. Boxing Day LWR was noted on 3927 in USB. The following day 3910 was being used and Sun January 9th the latter frequency was again in use with a nice signal. Sun Jan. 30th saw LWR on 3915 at 01.30 UTC with a strong signal. Word has it that Bill is planning to build a 1000W tx... At the beginning of the New Year Bill Lewis was noted on Weekend Music Radio. By the way: LWR has an excellent info-sheet available to its listening audience. Station OP Bill Lewis likes to have a lot more talk involved with LWR programs. Remember: address is now (2)!!

LIVEWIRES ON THE MOVE...FROM  
DECEMBER 1993

LIVE WIRE RADIO

14 STONE ROW  
COLERAINE, CO LONDONDERRY  
N IRELAND BT52 1EP

MR LIVEWIRE LOOKS  
FORWARD TO HEARING  
FROM YOU

**SHORT WAVE RADIO SWITZERLAND** started airing other stations as from February 5th onwards. The station is to be heard via the facilities of the IRRS on Sun at 12.00 UTC. The IRRS is broadcasting on 7125 kHz with a 10 kW tx having a very loud mod. Any SW pirate interested to have a relay via SWRS should contact the station: Box 35, 6027 Romerswil, Switzerland. Mind you: 30 minutes cost US\$ 40 or £ 25.... Txs to Pirate Connection for this piece of news.

**RADIO FUSION INT.** tested a few times on 76 metres between X-mas and New Year and also Jan. 30th on 3925. A new end-fed 38 metre long wire is in use which will be used for trms on both 76 and 41 metres. Station OP Jolly Jake hoped to be once a month on 76 and bi-monthly on 41 metres. Address is Media Team, Box 33, 1751 Halden in Norway. This info came from Pirate Connection.

**SUNSHINE RADIO** is a relatively new SW station being relayed a couple of times via Radio Orang Utan. The station started in August 1993. A total of 4 relays took place via RWI on 7473 kHz. November 28th 1993 the first 6200 relay over ROU was aired resulting in a good response. SRI features much music (including requests) as well as listeners' letters. It's a one man operation having its roots in Germany. Address is P.O.Box 114, 7040 AC 's-Heerenberg in the Netherlands.

**FOR ALL ROCKERS  
IN EUROPE  
THIS IS  
HEAVY DUDE RADIO  
ON SHORTWAVE  
ROCKING YOUR BRAINS OUT !**

**HEAVY DUDE RADIO** celebrated its 1st anniversary late November. During the first year 32 broadcasts were carried out resulting in about 110 reception reports from as many as 13 countries! Since Dec. 12th HDR hasn't been noted on 6210 due to technical reasons. The station should be back in February. If you are interested in a genuine HDR T-Shirt showing the 3 HDR deejays in action (drinking beer??), then send 80Skr, £ 8.00 or US\$ 12.00. The shirt is offered in medium and large. A black & white hat costs 30 Skr, £ 3.00 or US\$ 4.00. Address is (6).

**IDEA RADIO** seems to have a new Rohde & Schwarz 10 kW tx at its disposal. We were informed that the station is using 7360 between 05.00- 17.30 UTC and 7420 between 17.30 and 05.00 UTC.



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So far we haven't heard any strong signals which could point at a 10 kW signal emanating from Idea Radio. Perhaps in the near future? Address is C.P. 38, 16030 Gattorna (GE) in Italy.

Staying in Italy: **RADIO SPERANZA** from Modena is a new station and was heard in the UK on 6233 at 12.30 UTC Sun February 6th. Signal was weak but clear. According to 'Play-DX' it concerns a Catholic station with the following address: Reverendo Padre, Sacerdote Luigi Cordioli, Largo San Giorgio 91, I-41100 Modena in Italy.



*Radio Delta*

TO: R. DELTA INTL.  
P.O. Box 41  
8080 AA ELBURG  
THE NETHERLANDS

FROM: MR. VESELA A. KOCHKOZHAR  
P.O. Box 20P  
SAMARA 443010  
RUSSIA

**RADIO DELTA** from Elburg sent us some info concerning the X-Mas 1993 marathon broadcast. The shows started on X-Mas Eve at 23.00 UTC. Several pxs were aired containing oldies, hits and offshore extracts. A listener's competition was also part of the programming. The signal on 6275 was very good witness almost 100 letters (!!) which reached the station from all corners of the world including Paraguay, Russia, Canada and the USA!!! The station has qsl cards in 8 different colours and good looking info-sheets. You can drop them a line by writing to P.O.Box 41, 8080 AA Elburg in Holland



One of the most active stations on SW over the X-Mas period was **WEEKEND MUSIC RADIO**, Scotland's premier SW station. X-Mas Day WMR was active on three frequencies being 3945, 6240 & 1557 AM locally. In the middle of the morning 6210 was used in favour of 6240. Boxing Day saw a similar scenario with pxs on 3945, 1557 and three 48 mb channels: 6240, 6255 and 6280. WGAS' Andy Walker was in the studio presenting live programming together with station OP Jack Russell. In the very early morning hours of Boxing Day WMR was noted on 3927 in USB qso-ing (?) with Live Wire Radio. The studio telephone lines were open (for



those knowing the number) most of the day and this resulted in a number of very interesting conversations. BH Monday Dec. 27th saw WMR on 6202. NY's Day WMR was heard with 80W on 6240. Radio Pirana was also on that channel resulting in heavy grm. New Year's Day WMR was heard on 6219/3945 and also on 6240. The big 300W tx was switched on Sun Jan. 2nd when a wonderful WMR signal was received on 6210. A very powerful modulation made it all sound very loud. Pxs were presented by Jack and Jock (Wilson). LWR main man Bill Lewis was also in Scotland to join the two J's. No doubt WMR has been receiving an impressive number of letters for all that activity. Address is (2).

**RADIO NORTHEAST** was heard for the final time on 6252 (for the time being) Boxing Day. Reason is that the station cannot use the relay facility anymore and is forced to close down. Sun January 16th a really via Radio Orang Utan was planned between

12.00- 13.00 UTC. However, the ROU tx went off the air already before 11.00 (see ROU news) resulting in no Northsea relay. As far as we know the station will return later on this year!! Address is (1).

**RADIO PAMELA** carried out an interesting test on 5871 Sun Jan. 2nd. The signal-strength on the continent was fine, so was the mod quality. Thursday December 30th Pamela was heard on 6305 with a good signal in the UK. New Year's Day & January 6th Pamela used Caroline's 6295 frequency. January 23rd Pamela was heard on 5845. Regionally Pamela is active on 1607 AM and (more locally) on FM using the name WFM. Add is (5).

**ANGEL** is a new UK station first being noted in December. The station is based on the south coast of the UK making use of the old Freesound transmitter. The latter could be true as Mark King, former Freesound OP, was heard on Angel. December 25th & 26th as well as January 1st, 9th, 15th & 23rd Angel was noted on 6219 kHz. Signal quality on the continent isn't that impressing. Address is 65 Lucknow Street, Portsmouth PO1 1PT in England. In actual fact the station is active with a FM service under the name Angel FM. On SW the station identifies as Angel Int.

People who did already pirate DX-ing in the late 70's must remember the name of **RADIO UTOPIA**. This UK station popped up on Sun Dec. 26th on 3925 in USB with a fine signal. The OP was qso-ing with WMR and he said it was the original Utopia of the late 70s! Utopia used almost a 100W and the station transmits from the southern part of the UK. In the late 70s/early 80s most UK stations originated from the south-east corner (EMR, Atlanta Radio, ABC Int., Skyport Radio, Radio Corsair, Voice of Britain etc.). In those days it happened that a few stations were broadcasting very close to each other in a radius of only one or two miles! Those were the days...

**RADIO LONDON** was heard over the facilities of the BIRS on 6239/6300 Boxing Day. The same channels were used on NY Day. X-mas day London was heard on 6210 (was WMR?) and BH Monday December



27th 6239 was in use. All trms could be heard in good quality on the continent. Address is Box 293, Merlin, Ontario NOP 1W0 in Canada.

From our friends at **SOUTHERN MUSIC RADIO** in New Zealand we received a press re-le-ase (dated December 5th) in which SMR announces the closure of Radio Waves Int. Easter 1994 meaning that SMR has had to find a new relay for 1994 which has been done in the mean time. The BIRS will take over the relays from RWI and trms are intended to be aired in February, April, June, August, October and December. The point however is that due to the Radio Merlin raid the trms of the BIRS are currently simmering. It's difficult to say for how long but it looks like SMR's February broadcast will be cancelled. SMR will also produce a 30 minute programme for the final weekend of broadcasts by RWI. At this point in time SMR will continue to use the mailbox of RWI in 1994 unless things change. Happy listening to SMR, New Zealand's only station to be heard regular via relay in Europe. Tuesday Dec. 28th SMR was heard on 6239//6300 via the BIRS and January 9th the first 1994 trm was made via RWI on 7484 kHz.

A quick crossing to the United States. **PIRATE RADIO BOSTON** were relayed twice via Euro stations. The first one was on the 11th of December 1993 on 3915 kHz at nighttttine via the tx of Radio Titanic Int. And the second one took place Jan. 16th on 41 metres 7422 on an 'ordinary' Sunday morning via another OP not to be mentioned. PRB has a good reputation when it comes to replying listeners' letters. A further relay will perhaps take place later this year. Address is P.O.Box 146, Stoneham, MA in the USA.

**RADIO TITANIC INT.** had its final 1993 show December 19th with the help of Radio Orang Utan on 6200.5 kHz (that's the exact frequency). At least 45 letters were received. At present time RTI is working very hard to finish off its new history booklet and to reply to all those listeners with special qsl cards! RTI hopes to be aired over a few US SW pirates in the near future and to inform the American audience about the long station's history. Address is (1).

## RADIO TITANIC INTERNATIONAL

GERMANY'S LONGEST SERVING  
FREE RADIO STATION  
SINCE 1975

From January 1994 it's available: **QSL COLUMN 1994**. The publication, edited in English but also with useful references for the understanding in other languages, contains informations of the confirmations received in 1993 by some of the most active Italian DXers and our contributors at the same time. It has a A4 size and is photocopied. If you are interested send 6000 Italian liras or US\$ 6.00 (only cash) to the following address:  
Gral, c/o Riccardo Sorti, Via Mattei 25/1, I-16010 Manesseno S.Olcese (Genova) in Italy.

Apart from the various relays via ROU, **RADIO CLCG** was also noted with a strong signal on 7295 kHz January 9th. The English-language programme 'CLCG INT.' will return on air March 6th, 13th or 20th. That will be 1994's first programme: the Jan. 9th one concerned Tom's Music Radio. So far 'CLCG Int.' was aired once in every two months via Radio Orang Utan. For the time being this schedule isn't valid due to ROU's raid in January. The German-language service of Radio CLCG, Radio Popcorn, will from now on continue as an independent tape station using the Wuppertal address (1). The second German-language programme is called **Tom's Music Radio** (also a bit of a confusing name!) continues to be part of Radio CLCG. The address is P.O.Box 540101, D-47151 Duisburg in Germany.

**RADIO STELLA INT.** is off air because the station's txs were destroyed by fire. Up

till now we didn't hear this story. The txs were located in Ireland operating on 41 (7446), 25 (11413) and 76 (3945) metres. Jock Wilson wrote a letter to a few people informing them the RSI txs were seriously damaged.

It's interesting to see that a new relay service will become operational sometime in May. FRSH received detailed info-sheets about the

operation. The letter was signed by Jock Wilson. The info letter started with the sentence "I write on behalf of my anonymous client who intends to operate....". Now some facts:  
the tx has an output of 150W (four 807 valves) operating on 76 metres between 20.30 hours UK local time Saturdays until 10.00 hours Sundays. Next the tx will be re-tuned to 39 metres (7500-7700 kHz range) between 10.00 hours UK local time Sundays until 15.30 hours UK local time. Any station taking air time is offered a mailing address service. Each relay station must take at least one regular time slot per calendar month to be re-taken on the corresponding weekend of each subsequent month. Prices vary from £ 5.00 for one hour to £ 10.00 for 90 minutes. The tx is a crystal-controlled one using an EL84 valve as part of the oscillator stage. Both antennas are folded half wave dipoles, centre-fed through TV coax and cut to give 100% efficiency on signal output and are more or less omni-directional. Any station OP wishing to receive full info should write to Jock Wilson, RSI, 82 Pentland Place, Kirkcaldy, Fife KY2 6AQ in Scotland.

**RADIO DUBLIN** is reported to have returned on 6910, however, with a very low modulation making it very difficult to identify the station. Signal-strength is good, at least in the UK. Broadcasts have been noted on both weekends and weekdays. The address is Box 2077, Dublin 8 in Ireland.



**RADIO DELTA** was heard with a test on 6200 Sun February 6th. Most likely it regards Radio Delta Ruurlo. Signal was rather weak according to logs from France and the UK. And that's almost an unique thing knowing Delta is usually putting out superb signals with its 1000 watts tx. It could be this time less power was used. More likely is tha the appalling conditions that day were the main reason! Address is P.O.Box 65, 7265 AB Ruurlo in the Netherlands.

Another (??) **RADIO DELTA** was monitored on Saturday February 5th. Coincident or not: this station- also identifying as Delta Bravo- was heard on 6200 and reported to be broadcasting from somewhere in Northern Germany announcing the Wuppertal address (1). Signal was mainly fair in Berlin.

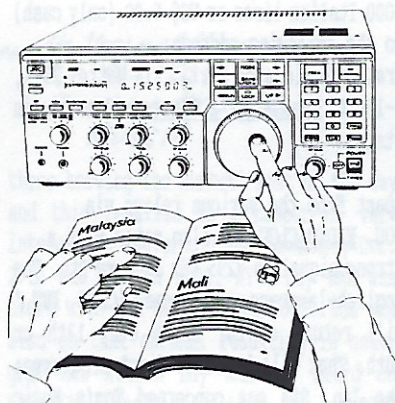
Another German station, **RADIO CITY**, was heard on 6255 Sun February 6th. So far we only got one log for this station. Could it be perhaps RECC?? We are not sure. Anybody able to help? Fact is there is a German station called Radio City using (1).

**RADIO DR. TIM** from Germany was relayed via Ozone Radio in Ireland on 6210 kHz Jan. 30th 1994. January saw the 1st anniversary of Dr. Tim, congratulations! A celebration show would have been aired via ROU but this seems now to be done via another relay-station. Address is (1).

**WGAS** wasn't active over the X-Mas period. Sun January 2nd saw the station with an unscheduled live trm. Andy Walker hosted a live phone-in. Signal-strength on 6295 was good on the continent. Later on that morning WGAS conducted a test on 5900 kHz with a signal being weaker than the one on 6280. January 23rd saw the station

with its 4th Sun service on 6280, once again with a solid signal. Conditions that day were very good and Andy Walker had, as always, interesting radio news in his show: he brought the news about the raid on the MV Fury. By the way: Andy was replacing Steve Conway who was absent. Officially Andy Walker has left WGAS and in the mean time he has joined Radio Merlin Int. In a personal letter he mentioned the reason for leaving WGAS: Andy is not very happy aboyt the way the station is sounding. He thinks WGAS is losing its direction. But he adds he's still on good terms with all WGAS presenters. Andy hopes to return on WGAS when things get better and a 76 mb tx is installed. So perhaps WGAS will be introducing 76 mb trms... Add is (1).

A last piece of news: WGAS was reported to be broadcasting on 6285 Sun February 6th (received in Berlin). Evidently an unscheduled transmission. At the FRSH monitoring post the station was inaudible. And from none of our UK loggers we got a log. This once again proves how weird conditions were on the 6th of February...



**RADIO DELMARE** is a relatively new SW station from the Netherlands. The station is unknown to many SW DXers because SW broadcasts are made only very seldom.

Shows are limited to a brief period. The last 48 mb broadcast was Nov. 6th 1993. Delmare is also active on medium wave 183m. An interesting experiment was carried out by the station some 7 months ago: a broadcast on medium wave from a car on which a 1m long vertical antenna was fastened. Delmare had a reach of approx. 40km while the same experiment on SW resulted in reports as far away as 450km. Address is P.O.Box 432, 3330 AK Zwijndrecht in the Netherlands.



Jan. 2nd **RADIO LOWLAND** was noted on the usual 6285 with an excellent signal. The station is very much alive which is proved by the regular 6285 trms and the very professional info booklet #3 which is available since December 1993. This info-booklet contains a number of excellent photos!! Following the raid in January 1993, a brandnew tx was constructed enabling the station to transmit mobile. It's a crystal-controlled AM modulated tx with an output of 40W. Normally, RLI uses an inverted "v"-type antenna system hanging some 15 metres above groundlevel. For mobile trms a 6m long ground-plane antenna is used and when conditions are good, a 36m "J"-stick antenna, high in the sky, hanging on a self-made kite. Interesting

**THE WORLD'S GREATEST ANORAK STATION**  
Every Weekend  on Shortwave

**Short Wave News**



to note is the station uses a 386sx IBM personal computer with a SoundBlasterPro and SoundEditor to record/edit station calls and jingles. Add is P.O.Box 39, 2300 AA Leiden in Holland.

5900 AJ Venlo in the Netherlands.

## SW NEWS IN BRIEF

RADIO SAFARI was heard on 6263 X-Mas Day. Nowadays 6263 is a real rarity! Pxs could

signal was noted on 6236.

Address is Box 59, 7260 AB

Ruurlo in Holland \*\*\* TRANSATLAN-

TIC RADIO was active on 6267 Jan.

2nd. It seems only 10W are being used.

Sunday February 13th the station tested on 6248 (??) but wasn't heard by one of our loggers. Another test took place on 6248 Sun Febr. 20th. At 09.00 UTC a fair/good signal was noted on the continent. Hardly 30 min. later the signal was poor. Conditions... Add is P.O.Box 4427, 3006 AK Rotterdam in the Netherlands \*\*\* UK-

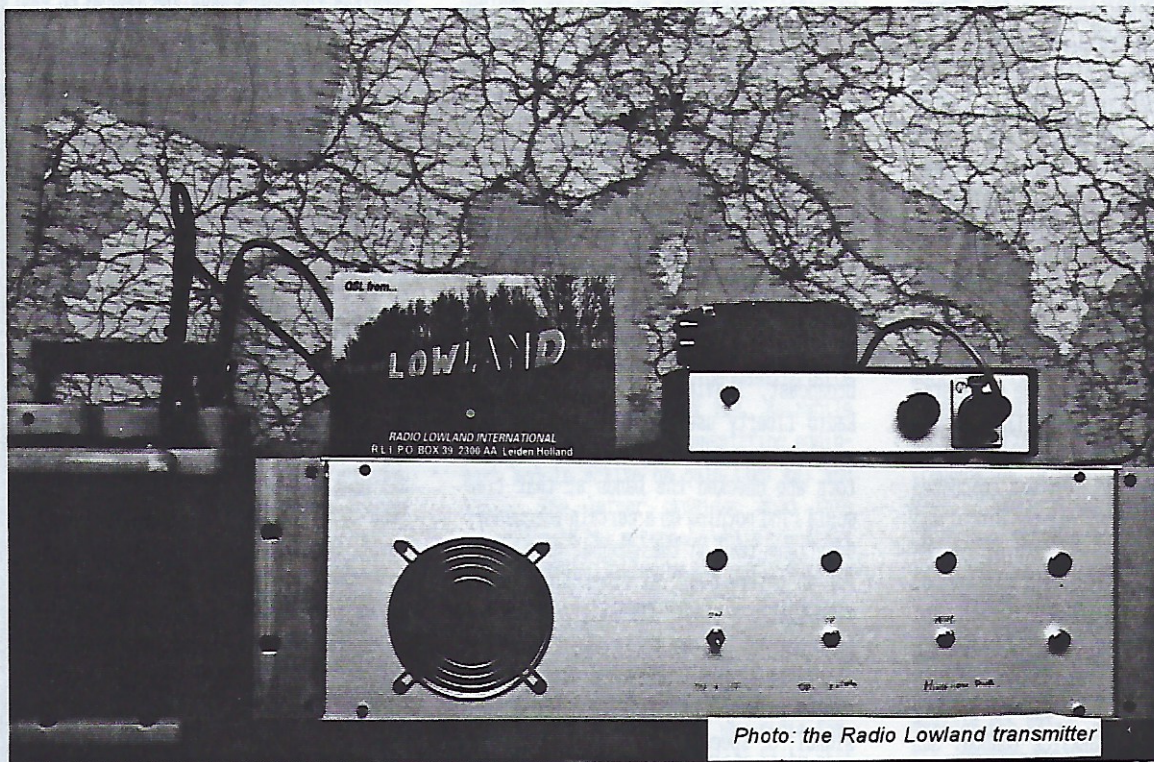


Photo: the Radio Lowland transmitter

RADIO WAHNSINN was heard Jan. 30th via the transmitting facilities of the BIRS. It must be clear the Wahnsinn is rather unlucky: on Jan. 16th the relay via ROU had to be cancelled due to a raid and on Jan. 30th Merlin was raided not too long after Radio Wahnsinn's relay. Merlin also used the BIRS tx. Address is Box 386, 5900 AJ Venlo in the Netherlands?

SUD WEST RADIO from Germany was heard with a test on 6270 Dec. 25th. It seemed the signal was overmodulated. Signal was fair. Earlier that morning a stronger signal was heard on 6285. Tuesday December 28th saw the station on 3905 and 3910. January 22nd yet another 3905 broadcast was carried out. Signal was fair/good. Add is Box 1243, Schiffweiler in Germany. ZIP-code is unknown. SWR was founded in October 1981 by 5 German radio freaks and the first test took place on 6290 January 1982. The station isn't as regular on 48 metres as a few years ago. SWR used to be one of the most popular German SW stations always putting out excellent signals. Address is Box 386,

have been aired via the facilities of the SSRS. X-Mas Eve Safari was active on 6305 kHz. Jan. 9th the station was heard on 6285 and February 6th on 6275. Add is SRS, Ostar Porten 29, S-442 54 Ytterby in Sweden \*\*\* Belgian RADIO BRIGITTE produced a good signal on 6555 X-Mas Day. Pxs were aired in German, Dutch and English. Add is Brigitte van Gelder, P.O.Box 10, 7594 ZG Rouveen in Holland \*\*\* X-Mas Day WNKR was noticed with a brief trm on 6285. Signal on continent was poor. Boxing Day saw the station on 6255. Add still is (1) \*\*\* STARLINE RADIO gave out a phone number during its 7477 X-Mas Day live show. A 50W signal with a bad mod was noted. A pity! Add is (1) \*\*\* Did you notice a station calling itself NEBO INFO SYSTEM on X-Mas Day on 6281? Signal was poor. Wuppertal add! \*\*\* Dec. 26th saw RADIO PARADISE testing on 3915. At 10.30 UTC the station was heard with a fairish signal. Is this the Swedish one using the Box 12059, 22012 Lund, Sweden add? \*\*\* Dutch powerhouse RADIO REFLEX was active Dec. 26th and Jan. 2nd, both times with excellent signals on 6237. On the 9th of January another strong

based RADIO EXPERIMENTAL was heard with a poor continental signal on 6225 kHz Sun Jan. 2nd. Station OP is Gary Stevens who was already active on SW in the 1970s. Add is ?? \*\*\* Russian RADIO 75 was heard via the RWI txs on 7484//11401 \*\*\* STARSHINE RADIO was noted with a poor/fair signal on 3910 Wednesday Dec. 29th. Address is 12 Dorman Rd, Preston, Lancs \*\*\* RADIO SHINY STAR was active Sun Jan. 9th on 3910. Could this have been Starshine? What's in a name... \*\*\* Who knows which station tested New Year's Day on 7414 with a fine signal?? \*\*\* RADIO AMSTERDAM was heard gso-ing with Weekend Music Radio on 6219 Jan. 2nd \*\*\* YTC, appearing so now and then on the SW bands, was logged during two occasions: Dec. 31st on 6289 with a fair/good signal and Jan. 23rd on 6290 with a rockformat. Add is (1) \*\*\* RADIO MOONLIGHT was heard twice on 6200: Jan. 9th and 15th (sat). Address is unknown \*\*\* GOOD MUSIC RADIO, a new name in SW land, aired a show on the 16th of January on 6280 kHz. That same day EMERALD RADIO from Ireland was noted on 6225 with a fair signal on the continent.



February 6th Emerald was noted in Berlin with a fair signal! Address is 8 Inverness Rd, Dublin 3 in Ireland \*\*\* **RADIO PEACE in ACTION** made a 7295 broadcast in USB Dec. 25th. Address is (1) \*\*\* **RADIO DRITLAND** is a new German station which was heard Dec. 26th with a rather weak signal on 6259 \*\*\* **RADIO MIKE** from the Rotterdam area used 6525 Boxing Day \*\*\* **KARIBU** from Germany tested on 6205 New Year's Day and signed off rather suddenly \*\*\* **RADIO ORION** is still alive 'n' kicking although the station is only very sporadically on air nowadays. X-Mas Eve and X-Mas Day 'the Big O' was on 6275, Jan. 1st 6290 was being used. Address is (5) \*\*\* **RADIO KAOS** put out a solid signal on 6205 Jan. 23rd \*\*\* That same day a station calling itself **RADIO ILLUSION** was logged on 6252 \*\*\* Remember Dutchie **RADIO SILVERBIRD**? A test on 6258 was conducted January 23rd. Unfortunately the signal was poor \*\*\* **RADIO PANDORA** was relayed via WMR Jan. 1st on 6210 \*\*\* **RADIO FOX** made use of Caroline's absence Sat Dec. 18th and provided a fair signal on 6295 \*\*\* **INNER CITY RADIO** was heard that same day on 6239 (via BIRS?) \*\*\* And then the #1 mystery station: **FREE RADIO SERVICE LONDON**. Sun Jan. 9th another tape of a landbased free radio station- this time good old Radio Free London- was put on the air on 6202. Signal was solid \*\*\* January 9th saw German station **RADIO RABBIT** on 6288. Add is Box 386, 5900 AJ Venlo \*\*\* **RADIO DUTCHBOY** used 7295 on the same morning as Radio CLCG (Jan. 9th). Coincident?? Add is Box 13, 7710 AA Nieuwleusen in Holland \*\*\* Remember good old **BRITAIN'S BETTER MUSIC STATION**? This one was noted on 6240 Sun Jan. 30th at 13.23 UTC. At that time the BIRS had left 6239 due to the raid earlier that day. BBMS' signal was fair/good in the UK. Add is unknown \*\*\* **XENON TRANSMITTING COMPANY** was noted Jan. 23rd on 6290 with a rock format. Febr. 20th another 6290 trm was made with a good mod. Add is (1) \*\*\* **RADIO BENELUX** was noted with a fair signal on 7479 Sun Jan. 30th. Add is (1) \*\*\* A station calling itself **LASER HOT HITS** was noted on 6220 February 13th. Was it the old Laser Hot Hits of years gone by? No address is known \*\*\* **RADIO DIAMOND** is a Dutch station which is heard very irregularly. Sun Febr. 13th the station popped up on 6211 with a strong signal in the UK. Add is Box 3037,

1780 GA Den Helder in the Netherlands.

**Cont. News from around the World (page 7)** stations were in operation. Each had 10 to 15 transmitters, 5 kW each. Their effective range, groundwave propagation, was 30 to 40km. Other powerful jammers were used for blocking out large territories by "shooting into" the specific region from great distances from 50 to 3000km with txs ranging from 50 to 500 kW. Despite the blanket of jamming stations, listeners who thoroughly monitored the dial could often find "holes" in the jamming barriers. There were tricks. For example, the station then known as Radio Beijing used to change its frequency slightly during the broadcast, leaving the jammers behind. Radio Liberty used to make two-to-three minute pauses on the hour. Jamming operators who checked the bands at that time would find nothing on a certain frequency, sometimes leaving the channel un-blocked for an entire hour. At other times, jamming stations simply transmitted randomly in order to use up their electric power allotment. Around 1978, the Soviets invented and began using the "rechepodobnyj" signal, or speech-like signal. Its advantage was that it conformed to be a human voice's timber. The signal which used to be played back from an open-reel tape recorder, was composed of voices of Radio Moscow's announcers. One more method was invented just before the end of the jamming era. By means of a directional SW antenna, the program of the jammed radio station was received. The audio signal was transmitted by cable to a special secret electronic device, which distorted the signal and sent it to the jamming transmitter. Thus, it seemed as if Radio Liberty for instance was blocking out itself. When the Soviet Union collapsed, some low-power jammers, especially in the Baltic states, were dismantled. One such jammer, which was installed after WWII in a synagogue of the Lithuanian port city of Klaipeda, was returned to the synagogue. In Russia, many former jamming txs are leased

to Western broadcasters to relay their programmes for Asia. Others have been acquired by private commercial stations. In Vilnius, one SW jamming transmitter was returned to medium wave and leased to the commercial radio station Radio Centras. Thus, broadcasters in eastern Europe have seen the conversion from jamming to radio broadcasting, hoping that the jamming stations will sleep forever (WBN).

## **CANADIAN AMs MOVE TO NEWS**

In a bid to stay alive, canadian AM stations are turning to talk formats in an increasingly FM-dominated market. The most notable change has been at Toronto's CFTR-AM. For years the nation's most popular Top 40 station, it recently flipped to all-news, even changing its well-known "680 CFTR" moniker to a more modest "680 News". Other stations have followed suit. In Ottawa for instance, CFRA-580 dropped music for a news/talk format. Said CFRA Vice President and General Manager Don Holby, the switch was expensive but was "the natural move for us to do", particularly since an FM station in the market had started to duplicate CFRA's music format.

In London, Ontario, meanwhile, CKSL-AM also moved to news and talk. Attracting the 25-54 age group back to AM is the key reason Vancouver radio consultant Pat Bohn advised both CKSL and CFTR to move away from music. His words: "From a mass audience point of view, news on AM is probably the format that will get you into the top three with a broad 25-54 audience. It's the only thing for AMs to do."

Of course, there's a limit to how many AM stations in a single market can make the switch- a limit that is currently being tested in Edmonton, Alberta. In that western Canadian city, three AM stations have moved to news and talk formats, leading to a positioning crush reminiscent of the old days of AM, when everyone wanted to be top 40.

## **THE SHORT WAVE ADDRESSES:**

- 1 = P.O.Box 220342/ D-42373 WUPPERTAL/ Germany
- 2 = 14 Stone Row/ COLERAINE/ Co. Londonderry BT52 1EP/ Northern Ireland
- 3 = 32 Victoria Rd/ SALISBURY/ Wiltshire SP1 3NG/ England
- 4 = P.O.Box 130/ 92504 RUEIL Cedex/ France
- 5 = P.O.Box 1218/ Chelmsford/ Essex CM1 4BD/ England
- 6 = c/o Stefan Printz/ Kamnarsvagan 13D:220/ 22646 LUND/ Sweden



# NEWS FROM AROUND THE



## LAZER AM

Saturday November 27th it is announced that the Radio Authority will be advertising another two extra frequencies for the Greater London area. This will happen in the Spring of 1994. Organisations who already tried to obtain a licence but were unsuccessful, will get a new chance and don't have to pay registration fee. One of the organisations showing interest is Lazer AM. Peter Moore is involved in this 'club'.

## WABC OFF AIR

Famous station WABC from New York was recently four days off air. Not because of technical or financial problems: the station got a special permission to silence the tx and give another station the possibility of testing and erecting an antenna system on the giant WABC antenna tower on top of the World Trade Center (FRW).

## TOP FORMAT: NEW DEMO

After an absence of no less than three years Top Format, Holland's largest jingle company, has been producing a brandnew demo-CD. Good news for all those radiojingle freaks collecting jingles from radio stations all over the world. On this CD 45 minutes excellent material, that's 15 minutes longer than the demos of the past. Even among collectors in the US the Top Format demos are very popular because of the humour and the multi-lingual jingles! The last CD was published in 1991 and became a great success thanks to the presentation of Kevin McCarthy, an American deejay. This new demo is called 'Mighty Magical Jingle Tour' and offers an imaginary guided tour showing the Haarlem Top Format offices. Among others the 'Adult Contemporary Wing', 'the Sweeper-Booth' and the 'Hot AC Chamber' are being showed. That results a few very creative jokes (groaning defaulters being locked up in the cellar of the Top Format building). Apart from that there's a guest appearance of Jon Wolfert, big boss of one of the leading US jingle companies, JAM Creative Productions (the biggest jingle company in the world!) having its seat in Dallas. The majority of material used by Top Format is coming from SAM. For instance the Veronica

jingles and Sky Radio ones are coming from JAM. Top Format records/creates jingles for stations across the whole of Europe. There are enough examples: Danish, Portuguese, Norwegian, German, Flemish, Slovakian and even Latvian jingles. On the CD a collection of the most beautiful jingle stuff. So: if you (\*1) are a radio enthusiast and (\*2) are a jingle freak too, it's (\*3) time to order this CD by paying f 35,- (including P&P). Address: Top Format Prod., P.O.Box 6040, 2001 HA Haarlem (FRW).

## WWCR

It looks like WWCR is surmounting the enormous fire which took place in the late spring of 1993 on the broadcasting site destroying several AM/SW txs. Meanwhile WWCR has obtained new transmitting equipment and is active on 5810 (100 kW) and 15610. The latter provides good Euro reception in the afternoon while the first one is more suitable for the early morning hours (FRW).

## THE ARROW

That's the name of the new slogan being used by CBS for a kind of new radio format. A number of radio stations being part of the CBS network play the best rock and roll hits from the 60s, 70s & 80s aiming at more music and less talk. The first CBS station starting with this new format was WARW FM in New York, replacing WLTT FM only playing soft hits. WARW FM can be received in the Washington area on 94.7 MHz. Also other major US cities will experience how 'The Arrow' sounds like. A huge campaign promoting WARW FM via the local TV stations must make the listening audience aware of 'The Arrow' (FRW).

## BURGLARY...

Two inhabitants of Capelle aan de IJssel (western part of the Netherlands) have been arrested by police. The 20 and 30 year old men were after FM transmitters used by Dutch local radio stations. They stole a high number of txs and next the equipment was taken into pieces. The accessories were used to build new txs which were resold. They operated in the whole of the Netherlands (FRW).

## ATLANTIC 252

The Irish-based commercial radio station Atlantic 252 operating in Britain has reported that it has been profitable since the end of 1992. In its first three years of operation, Atlantic suffered heavy financial losses but a restructuring of the station's finances boosted revenues. The station claims five million listeners in Britain and 300,000 in Ireland (WBN).

## A JAMMING STORY

One significant result of the end of the Cold War is the end of radio broadcast that was carried out by the Soviet Union with mixed effectiveness since the end of World War II. Powerful transmitters with antenna arrays on towers on many locations inside and outside the USSR sought up the frequencies of Western stations- medium wave as well as short wave- to prevent reception. It was an expensive undertaking. Experts say that operating a jamming transmitter for a specific territory can cost up to seven times more than what is needed to bring a radio program into the territory.

Through the years, such stations as Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe learned tricks to foil the jammers. At the same time, the Soviet's techniques were becoming more sophisticated. Short wave jammers of two types, short-range (groundwave-type intended to cover big cities) and long-range jammers, ionospheric types with directional antennas. The jamming program was intense. For the June 1986 period, when the Cold war was relatively calm, more than 95% of the Voice of America broadcasts into the USSR that were monitored were found to be jammed. Of the Radio Liberty broadcasts, almost 100% were jammed, while about 98% of the monitored Radio Free Europe broadcasts were subjected to jamming. In that same period, stations in Europe, North Africa and the Middle east reported that their national broadcasts experienced interferences as a result of jamming directed at other broadcasters. This info was provided by the International Frequency Registration Board (IFRB) of the ITU. This result is not surprising, considering that Lithuania, one of the smallest ex-Soviet republics, as many as 5 jamming

To be continued on page 16 column 2/3!

**News from around the World**



## TECHNICAL FEATURE

We are very happy to include in this first 1994 edition a technical feature, written by a person who knows a lot about short wave radio and various technical aspects, connected with the SW hobby. His name is Chris Wattson and Chris was the key-figure behind Radio 48, the UK-based SW free radio station which disappeared just over three years ago. On the 16th December 1990 Radio 48 closed down as a result of the new UK laws coming into force January 1st 1991. In the mean time Chris remained active in the field of radio: blood will tell!! Chris founded Radio Geronimo, a rather mysterious station. Radio Geronimo changed to new 'owners', a few former Radio Atlantis SW persons. But quite recently, Radio Geronimo is back where it belongs: in the hands of Chris. In the past years Chris carried out numerous tests on SW without using a particular station name. These tests were a result of Chris' passion for the technical side of the SW hobby. He tested on unusual frequency bands like 4.7 Mhz and also carried out mobile tests while driving in his car... But now it's time for Chris!!

The detailed study of the ways in which radio waves are propagated is a complex branch of science of radio physics, so I will try not to make it too complicated for you! Radio waves tend to behave differently and to be suitable for broadcasting they are chosen accordingly. The radiations of the longwave band 15 kHz to 500 kHz tend to travel along the surface of the earth without attenuation (weakening). The groundwave, the

the ground, is usable for hundreds to thousands of miles day or night. When higher frequencies are used, the ground wave attenuates more rapidly, as energy from it is more effectively absorbed by the surface over which it is moving. As a result, frequencies in the 500 kHz to 2 MHz region will have usable ground wave signals 50 to 400 miles or sometimes more depending on the output power of the station. As the frequency is increased to above 2 MHz, to say 10 MHz, the usable groundwave signal is now very small and will travel for only a few kilometres. Well that's just for openers, now we will go into a bit deeper!

### PART 1: THE IONOSPHERE

(a general view on its affects of the radio spectrum)

Near the earth the air is rather dense, but from about 60 to 600 miles above the earth the air is quite thin and radiated energy from the sun can ionize the widely spaced molecules. The different degrees of ionization produced, form into several recognizable layers. The ionized atmosphere allows the radiated wave to travel faster through it than the more dense unionized lower air. As a result, the top part of the wave moving into the ionosphere speeds up and forges ahead of the lower part of the wave, and eventually may turn, or reflect the wave until it is moving downward (figure 1).

The lower the frequency of the waves, the less penetrating effect they have and the greater the proportion of them may be turned back towards earth. The

Signals with frequencies of 10 to 30 MHz may be deflected, or they may penetrate the ionosphere depending on the time of day, the angle at which the wave strikes the ionosphere and the degree of ionization present. With weak ionization they penetrate; with stronger ionization they may be reflected. With still stronger ionization the wave energy may be totally absorbed and dissipated in the ionosphere. During times of sunspot activity and while the aurora borealis is active, ionization is considerably increased and long distance transmissions may be interrupted because of almost complete absorption of all waves by the ionosphere. Besides the frequency factor, the angle at which the radio wave enters the ionosphere determines the penetration or refraction of the wave. While there may be some actual reflection of the lower frequency signals travelling directly upward, almost all that part of higher frequency waves being transmitted at an angle of nearly 90 degrees above the surface of the earth either penetrate or absorbed by the atmosphere, as indicated in figure 2. As the angle becomes less than 90 degrees, there is most chance of reflection. The higher the frequency, the greater the penetration and the lower the angle required to produce reflection. At high frequencies, there may be long distances between the end of the usable groundwave signal and the reappearance of reflected wave and at lower frequencies the skywave often returns earth in the groundwave! Phew! Hope you're all getting this? If the skywave returns to earth and strikes a good conducting surface such as salt water, it will be reflected back upwards and take a double hop and of course this leads to very long distance propagation (if you are lucky, see figure 2). The groundwave remains the same night and day. Only the skywave changes. As night approaches the sun can no longer ionize the atmosphere above the darkened part of the earth and the ionized layers become thinner. The thinly ionized layers turn the waves back to earth over a wide arc and the skywave returns to earth many miles farther away than it does during the daytime. At low frequencies there is not too

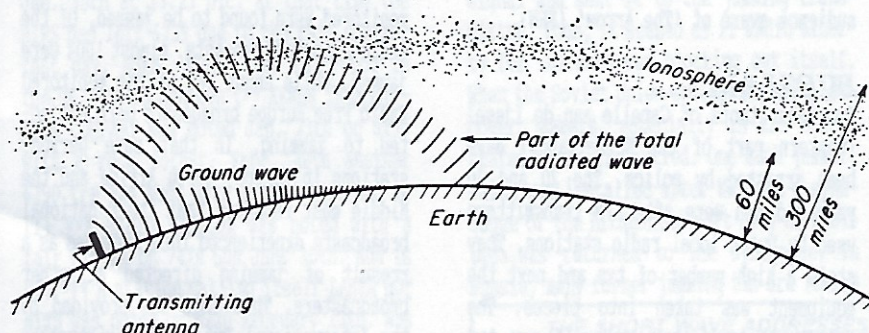


FIG. 1 The ionosphere, a layer of ionized gases above the earth, can refract radio waves back to earth.

portion of the wave travelling a few yards above the surface of

higher the frequency, the more penetrating energy the radio waves contains.



much difference between day and night trms although at distances of several hundred miles the night time signal will be stronger.

them. These reradiated signals past the horizon produces a scatter type transmission which greatly increases the range of such frequencies. Normally the

height ranging from 200 to 400 km (130 to 250 miles), see figure 3, and is the principal reflecting region for long distance HF broadcasting and communications. Height and ionization density vary day to day, seasonally and with the sunspot cycle. At night, the F2 layer merges with the F1 layer and reduction in absorption of the E layer causes nighttime signal strength and noise to be generally higher than daytime. The F2 layer appears about sunrise, local time, the critical frequency (more on this later) rising sharply, reaching a maximum a few hours after the sun is at its highest elevation. Then it decreases from this value, reaching a minimum during nighttime hours.

## B- F1 layer

The F1 layer has a height of about 200 km (150 miles) and exists only during the daytime. This layer occasionally is the reflecting region for HF transmission as well, but usually waves that penetrate the E layer also penetrate the F1 layer, to be reflected by the F2 layer. The F1 layer introduces additional absorption of such waves, again this layer merges with the other F layer at night.

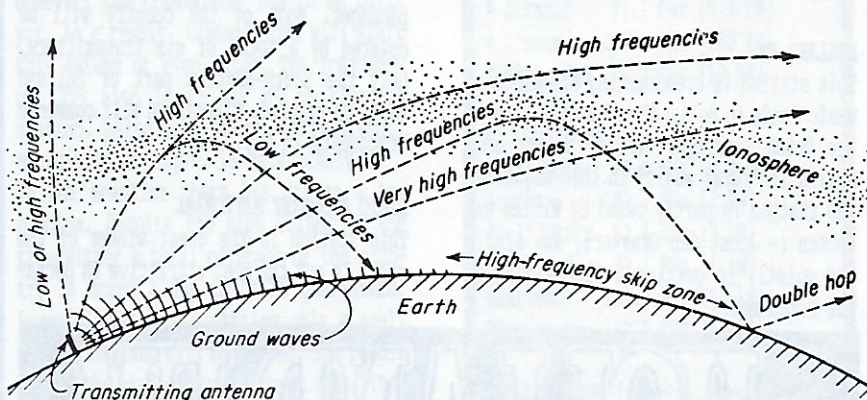
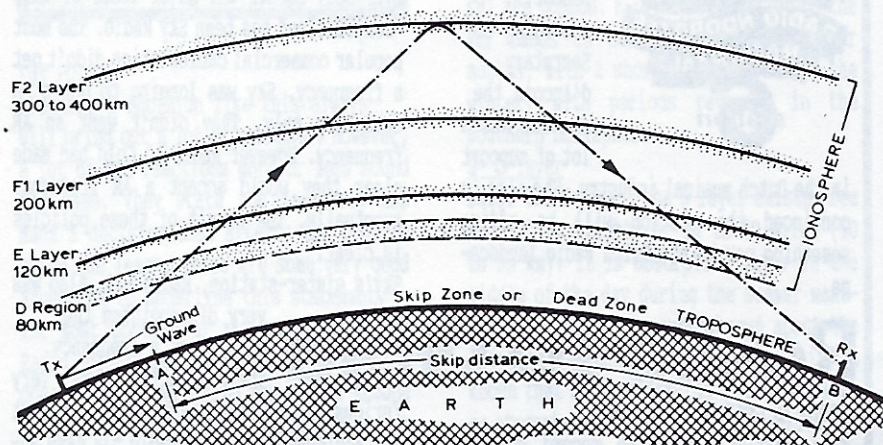


FIG. 2 are.

But at medium frequencies (MF) and the lower SW band (HF) past the groundwave range, the signals improve materially at night. It is possible to pick up signals several thousands miles away, in comparison with several hundreds or much less during the daytime. At SW frequencies from 3 to 10 MHz, the daytime refracted signals may return to earth 500 to 5,000 miles or more away. At nighttime the signals may pierce the ionosphere and may not return to earth at all. It can be seen that a high frequency communication system between two points hundreds or thousands of miles apart, may have to shift from one frequency to another during the day and night to keep the signals strong enough to be usable. Frequencies between 30 to 100 MHz may sometimes be refracted during the day, but almost never at night. These frequencies are considered unreliable for long distance communications although with high gain beam antennas radio amateurs from time to time do operate long distance on VHF 50 MHz and 144 MHz but reliable contacts of hundreds of miles still cannot be guaranteed on these frequencies. So for VHF, UHF & SHF (microwave) these are not subject to refraction by the ionosphere. They are similar to light waves and are used for ground wave or direct wave trms. Beaming strong VHF or UHF signals towards the horizon causes induction of the signals into conductive areas on the horizon and the signals are reradiated from

greater the altitude, the colder the air. If for any reason a layer of warmer air forms above a colder stratum, a heat inversion is present. The two layers have different densities of air and can affect VHF radio waves enough at times to refract them back to earth at distances of hundreds of miles. When the layer is thin, it may act as duct or pipeline for UHF and SHF signals. Well, that was a quick run-down on the ionosphere, now in part 2 we will look at the layers in more detail.

FIG 3



## PART 2 THE IONOSPHERE LAYER BY LAYER

### (A- F2 layer)

The higher of the two major reflection regions of the ionosphere is called the F2 layer. This layer has a virtual

To be continued on page 21 column 3!

### C- E layer

Below the F layers at a height of 60 miles (80 to 120 km) is an



# Made in Holland

By Chris Latiers

Friday January 22nd saw the long-awaited assignment of terrestrial frequencies to commercial stations. Five stations have got permission to start competing the public broadcasters. The -more or even less- lucky winners are: Radio Noordzee Nationaal, Radio 10 Gold, Holland FM, AM Nieuws and Classic FM. First we have a look at these stations. Then we will investigate which frequencies have been allotted to these stations and after that we will conclude with comments on the decision.

## THE WINNERS

### CLASSIC FM

A lot of people didn't believe their ears and/or eyes when they became aware this London-based station had gained a FM frequency. The station will present a format of classical music (60% during daytime) and Jazz (40% during the evening hours). Secretaries of State Mrs d'Ancona and Mrs May call it a "unique formula, which will contribute to the development of the musical culture in Holland." More info with regard to Classic FM in FRS Satellite Telex.

### RADIO NOORDZEE NATIONAAL



This station merely broadcasts Dutch products. According to Secretary d'Ancona the station has a lot of support

in the Dutch musical industry. She also is convinced the station will be adding something new to the Dutch radio landscape.

## Radio 10 Gold

### RADIO 10 GOLD

This station, owned by record company Arcade, mostly plays very popular golden oldies. Quite a number of former offshore "personalities" work on this station. Remeber Tom Mulder (= Klaas Vaak - Veronica), Peter Holland (RNI), Paul Lek (= Maarten de Jong - Monique), Herbert Visser (Monique) and Kas van Iersel (= Cas Collins - Voice of Peace).

### AM NIEUWS

This station is a joint venture of some publishers (newspapers and magazines). The station will be broadcasting news 24 hours a day. A kind of CNN on the radio.

### HOLLAND FM

This station is broadcasting all kinds of music "made in Holland" and mostly also in the Dutch language. Herbert Visser once called it "rural music" in this magazine. The station is partly owned by Willem van Kooten (= Joost den Draayer), who slowly and quietly is getting a fierce grip on the Dutch media.



At this station we also meet a lot of offshore names, like Chiel Montagne (Veronica), Krijn Torringa (Veronica, Radio 558), Eddy Becker (Veronica), Pierre Kartner (Veronica, Monique, Radio 558), Peter de Groot (Monique), Eddy Ouwens (Monique), Ger Lammens (= Gert van der Zee - Monique), Jan van Zanten (Monique), Ad Roberts (Caroline, Monique, Radio 558, Radio 819).

## THE LOSERS

Everybody agrees the major loser of this "competition" has been Sky Radio. The most popular commercial cablestation didn't get a frequency. Sky was longing to get a FM frequency only. They didn't want an AM frequency. However Radio 10 Gold had made clear they would accept a AM frequency eventually. The result of these policies is clear.

Sky's sister-station, Radio 538, also was very disappointed they didn't get a frequency.

Their reaction was very furious. It is possible to appeal against the assignment. Sky and Radio 538 have announced they will do so. Radio 538's Lex Harding: "The government policy only aims at protecting the public system. Classic FM and Radio Noordzee Nationaal are just a minor threat to the public broadcasters." We think this statement is more than just an emotional reaction. To make this clear we not only have to look at the stations which got a frequency, but also to the

frequencies they got.

## THE FREQUENCIES

### CLASSIC FM

This station obtained one of the two FM packages. Most of the country will be covered by a total of six transmitters. Only the South-Eastern part of Holland won't be reached. Classic FM will commence broadcasts in May.

### RADIO NOORDZEE NATIONAAL

This station is the great winner of the race. It got the most attractive FM packa-

ge. A lot of people already predicted this "victory". The very good ties between this station and the department of Secretary d'Ancona have worked out. RNN will start on FM April 1st.

### RADIO 10 GOLD

The former Radio 3 AM frequency 675 kHz has been assigned to Radio 10 Gold. It took a long time before Dutch government made their final choices but on the other hand: things can also develop very fast! Friday January 28th at 20.00 hours local time- exactly one week the decision was made public- the station started its transmissions on the new frequency. Prior to that the Dutch minister d'Ancona made a phone-call to an engineer working at the transmitting site in Lopik where the 675 AM tx is located. She asked him to raise power from 30 to 120 kW. After the tx was put on full power, 675 Radio 10 Gold (the new name for the station) officially started AM broadcasts definitely becoming a more serious rival to Dutch Radio 3 and the German oldies station RTL Radio on 1440 kHz. With those 120 kW the whole country is covered. During evening time interference could occur from a French station based in Marseille using no less than 600 kW. 675 Radio 10 Gold is making use of CLT signal processing equipment. In the mean time the modulation level has been adjusted and is now 3dB louder.

Made in Holland



## AM NIEUWS

This station will be broadcasting on 1395 kHz AM, using a new transmitter, radiating a power of 550 kW. However: the transmitter has to be built yet. As a result, transmissions will start this Autumn or even later. The frequency of 1395 also is in use by an Albanian station, using huge power. Interference, especially at night, is very likely. In the meantime there has arisen a new problem. Despite the high output of the transmitter a total coverage of the country 24 hours a day can't be guaranteed. Especially during nighttime only a small part of Holland will be served. The people behind the station don't accept this. They suggest AM Nieuws could use 747 kHz, now used by Radio 1. Otherwise the organization isn't keen on investing 12 million Guilders in a project only reaching a part of Holland.

## HOLLAND FM

The consolation prize has been won by Holland FM. This station got nine left-over AM transmitters using eight different frequencies at low power. Attempts are made to transmit on the same frequency at all locations, like Virgin does. Power varies between 1.25 and 20 kW (Assen). It even looks like a practical joke to give AM frequencies to a station called Holland FM...

Also the Holland FM transmitters have to be built yet. Holland FM will be broadcasting on AM at the end of 1994.

Lawyers are investigating the possibilities to appeal against the decision. Meanwhile Nico Volker has foolish (?) ideas. Although the strongest tx would be located in Assen, Holland FM is allowed to decide whether this tx will be located elsewhere. And Nico who used to be the key-figure behind Radio Monique/Radio 819/Radio 558 cannot forget the old days on the high seas. He has seriously considered the idea of using the Ross Revenge to broadcast the Holland FM medium wave signal across the country. This would attract a lot of publicity for the station. A second option is using a ship on the Dutch IJsselmeer putting out those 22 kW. Finally we give you a complete survey of the terrestrial frequencies and transmitting powers used by the Dutch commercial radio stations:

## RADIO NOORDZEE NATIONAAL

* Utrecht	89.5 MHz (1 kW)
* Gouda	90.7 MHz (2 kW)
* Alkmaar	91.1 MHz (0.2 kW)
* IJssum	100.4 MHz (100 kW)
* Rotterdam	102.7 MHz (50 kW)

## CLASSIC FM

Middelburg	93.0 MHz (0.4 kW)
IJssum	93.2 MHz (2 kW)
Zwollerkarp.	93.6 MHz (2 kW)
Hoogezand	99.1 MHz (1 kW)
Haarlem	101.2 MHz (50 kW)
Wieringerh.	102.5 MHz (5 kW)

## HOLLAND FM (on AM;planned)

Rotterdam	828 kHz (2 kW)
Den Haag	1035 kHz (2.2 kW)
Assen	1224 kHz (22 kW)
Utrecht	1332 kHz (2.2 kW)
Den Haag	1485 kHz (1.25 kW)
Tilburg	1485 kHz (1.25 kW)
Amsterdam	1557 kHz (2.2 kW)
Utrecht	1584 kHz (1.25 kW)
Leeuwarden	1602 kHz (1.25 kW)

## AM NIEUWS (planned)

Lopik	1395 kHz (550 kW max.)
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## 675 RADIO 10 GOLD

Lopik	675 kHz (120 kW)
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## THE POLICY

Ofcourse a decision like this always will bring out a lot of comments. However, a lot of the reactions more or less sound the same. They state the Secretary has made a decision that affects the public system the least. There are some very good arguments to underline this statement. The most popular of all candidates, Sky Radio, didn't get a frequency. The station doesn't bring something new, Mrs d'Ancona said. The major threat towards the system has been eliminated.

Banning the second popular station to AM can be seen as another measure to save the public system.

Another argument: why assigning frequencies to two stations offering the same format: Holland FM and Radio Noordzee Nationaal. Looking at the marketshares of both stations, it will be clear their influence is only of minor importance.

Very strange has been the "victory" of

**Made in Holland**

Classic FM. There're already some stations (both public and commercial) playing classical music. There also has been a strange move in the procedure: in the application the station said it would offer classical music only. Later Jazz music was added to this. This addition wasn't legal, but later appeared to be decisive.

## Cont. Technical Feature page 19:

...absorptive layer termed the E layer which exists during daylight hours only, reaching a maximum at noon. For all practical purposes, the E layer disappears at night, although weak traces are often observed. This layer's important for daytime HF propagation at distances of less than 1000 miles (1600 km), and for occasional medium frequency nighttime propagation at distances in excess of 100 miles (160 km). Irregular cloudlike areas of unusually high ionization called sporadic E, may occur up to more than half of the time on certain days or nights. A large percentage of sporadic E propagation is attributed to visible bombardment of the atmosphere by the sun. The layer height and electron density of the atmosphere by determine the skip distances of sporadic E propagation. It is less common on the lower HF bands but higher up and incl. the VHF spectrum distances of 400 miles (1200 km) are common. E layer propagation on the VHF bands is common during the summer months, with a shorter season during the winter, with periods reversed in the southern hemisphere.

## D- D layer

Below the E layer, the D layer exists (see fig. 3) at heights of 30 to 50 miles (50 to 80 km). It is absorptive layer in the middle of the day during the summer months. Not much is presently known about the characteristics of the layer but it is known that D layer remains ionized as long as atmosphere receives solar radiation and disappears quickly at sunset. But it is thought that this layer cause high absorption in the MF and HF range during the middle of the day (now you know why the Sunday morning shortwave pirates' signals decrease (not always) around lunchtime!). This technical feature will be continued containing subjects such as the critical frequency, fading, sunspots & solar cycles, transmitting & receiving arials



# SOUNDS from OFFSHORE

Late January we were unpleasantly surprised by the news that the MV Fury was raided by US authorities. In offshore and SW free radio circles interest was excited because a few press bulletins were released, an interview with one of the backers- Brother R.G. Stair- was broadcasted via Radio Netherlands' 'Media Network' and last but not least because photos of the ship including an antenna tower were circulating. Although conflicting reports are part of any shipborn project there was hope for valid reasons this project would succeed sometime in 1994. FRSGDX's main offshore man Hans Knot goes through the points once again and summarizes the story of the MV Fury.

The first reports regarding a new off-shore project, being fitted out in the USA, reached Freewave Media Magazine on Wednesday December 16th 1992. It was even said the ship was already heading for Europe reaching the Northsea around the turn of the year. This info was to be read in a paper cutting. According to this report the ship had been equipped in Galvestone, Texas and had sailed to Shreeveport on the Bahamas. A name for the ship wasn't mentioned. Daytime would be filled with pop music while religious organisations would be leasing airtime during evening. The latter had already a name: World Christian Radio. Other report suggested another name: Friendship Radio.

In England rumours started to circulate suggesting Caroline boss Ronan O'Rahilly was involved in the project. He hadn't show up at the Caroline Highgate offices for several months, reason to believe he was working on something new. The organisation behind the project would have obtained an international licence allowing them to broadcast. There even was talk of a registration in an unnamed flagstate. Carrying out this plan was a surprise from Ronan for all Caroline people who didn't succeed in getting the Ross back on the high seas. That same week-the end of 1992- a report from the USA was received telling there were two 50

kW txs, one for AM and one for SW use. One name of a backer was that of George Otis, responsible for the Voice of Hope and World Harvest Radio operations. Almost at the same moment Al Weiner, who was involved in the Radio New York Int. project in 1987, offered the MV Sarah for sale adding he didn't know anything about a new US off-shore project.

The next report came January 4th 1993. It was said the ship was already within European waters looking for an anchorage off the French Normandy coast. The SW tx was capable of broadcasting on three different frequency ranges depending on the direction in which the signal would be beamed. Apart from American backers there would also be German ones although not one single name was given. Another source reported it wasn't all but certain an anchorage off the French coast would be chosen. The Mediterranean was more favourable because of the much calmer weather. In case the ship will be anchored off the French coast, the exact mooring will be 14 miles south-west of Calais. The ship has a tonnage of 3000. This spot in the Northsea was more or less the same one used by the Communicator during the 1987 spring and is named 'The Sandetie Sandbank'.

January 8th I was called telling me the ship was already anchored off the French coast. Shipping people had seen the ship on which a tall 67 metre was erected. Unfortunately no source could be given and by the one calling. "I believe it when I hear it with my own words" was my slogan. The next few weeks went by without any developments till an American informer reported the radio vessel had been anchored in the harbour of Boston for quite some time. Unvoluntary one was thinking about the MV Sarah and the news the former RNI vessel was for sale. Could it be that Al Weiner was involved in the new project? According to the informer, they had called in Boston, just before crossing the Atlantic to European waters.

When rumours are surfacing, they are always blown up out of proportion. And this project was no exception. A few days

after the last news, it was claimed that the ship was the former Radio and TV Marti ship, which used to put out propaganda aimed at Cuba. On board an American captain, who would be replaced by an European one at the moment the ship would reach European waters, and an international crew. March 13th another confusing story: the ship had left Boston harbour a few days before complete with new antenna towers not being erected until the ship would reach its final destination. It was added that in the past helium balloons had been used for the aerial system. At that moment all reports looked like one huge balloon...

In April I tried to get more info regarding the project. The public information service of the Voice of America was contacted because the former Marti ship was involved (Marti's an American project). A few days later I received a fax in which the Americans denied the fact the Marti ship was used for this project! What they knew was the involvement of a person named Al Weiner. April 30th one informer reports that the ship left Boston harbour quite urgently. Reason: a CNN film crew appeared to be too interested. And suddenly the number of txs on the ship was doubled compared with previous reports!

Early July Al Weiner finally answered a number of questions coming from Europe and one interesting thing he said was that the rumours about the Marti ship were spread to create confusion. Nevertheless he was prepared to reveal facts about the project. The ship was bought early 1993, so all reports about the ship crossing the ocean late 1992 were completely nonsense. There was even no ship at that stage. The ship- a former fishing boat- was built in 1965 and once belonged to the Ross Fishing Fleet. It is indeed a sister ship of the Ross Revenge!! In december 1992 the ship was put up for sale after being used for various purposes. The last three years it was used to remove cables out of the ocean, cables which had been used for Transatlantic telephone lines. The vessel was registered as



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MV Fury and didn't attract much attention because being moored in between a great number of ships. The Fury is 140 foot long and has a width of 30 foot and is equipped with a 1500 HP motor. On board two 40 kW and two 10 kW short wave txs. Electricity is provided by a powerful 300 kW generator. Weiner also spoke about the programming side of the operation: most pxs would be recorded in New York based studios, and via a satellite uplinking facility the signal would be received and relayed on SW via the txs on the Fury. State-of-the-art receiving equipment worth US\$ 50,000 was invested. Technically speaking it was possible to keep the receiving dish in the right position receiving the satellite signal. This system is an invention of the US company 'Sea-Tel'. The ship would be registered in a small country in the Caribbean. Al Weiner became joint owner responsible for the technical part and was accompanied by Scott Becker owning the Becker Satellite Network doing the managing side. A company called 'Voyager Broadcasting Services' was founded. Finances were coming from evangelist Brother Stair from 'Overcome Ministries' (having its seat in South Carolina) having the exclusive claim on the two 40 kW txs on board the Fury. July 12th there was a special edition of his religious show in which he talked with Al Weiner about the project. This conversation was aired via WWCN's outlet on 7435 kHz. Stair claimed that the ship would be moored off the coast of the flag state rather than in European waters. Two txs would be leased to any interested party. Weiner believed the ship would be heading for the Caribbean in the middle of September. And once again dust was thrown in the eyes of several people with the announcement that it would be considered to cross the Atlantic after the winter period. Broadcasting from the Caribbean would cause no problems as far as Euro reception was concerned. Any raid was impossible because of the ship being moored within the national waters of the flag state. In the following weeks a number of potential frequencies were mentioned. One of them was 7415, one of the most popular weekend spots among American SW pirates. Jonathan Mark's 'Media Network' featured an interview with Brother Stair last Summer.

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The latter said it hadn't been a problem to get a flag. Broadcasting via ship was a way of saving money and the ideal way to steer clear of PCC regulations. The start was set to take place sometime in September. Stair also paid attention to an eventual European satellite adventure via Astra clearly referring at the World Radio Network's facilities. The txs were formerly used for military purposes being very strong and compact.

August 24th 1993 there once again were confusing reports. The ship would be heading to an anchorage in the vicinity of St. Kitts and Nevis (Caribbean) within 5 days. The ship would be broadcasting from this position for a number of months after which a journey to Europe would be undertaken. Reason: one of the organisations involved strongly wished the ship to broadcast within European waters. An extra reason to believe Ronan O'Rahilly was involved.

August 20th a press bulletin was released containing info regarding the ship, txs etc. and the slogan "Your Lighthouse on the air". Conclusion after reading the press bulletin was that a major part of the earlier given info was correct. Info given by Brother Stair & Al Weiner). September 27th 1993: the ship would have problems with the registration. October 7th: the ship was repainted in the harbour of Charlestown, South Carolina. An American newspaper reported the Fury would be heading for the Spanish coast!

November 28th the American press paid again attention to the Fury project. A new flag state was mentioned: Belize, an island close to Cuba. It was confirmed that the ship would sail to Spain in the Spring of 1994. Not too long ago, December 1993, Robin Banks- remember him from Radio Northsea Int.-visited the Fury. He was on an American tour giving technical advice to stations. Banks was disappointed when he saw the txs. His comment: "They are dated and besides: spare parts are hardly available for this type of non commercial txs." In the mean time it became 1994 and until Wednesday January 19th nothing special happened. An alarming fax report said: "The dream is once and for all over". What had happened, what was going on?

January 19th at 08.30 EST (local time) US Coastguard and PCC officers set foot on

the MV Fury and confiscated the ship temporarily. The Post and Courier paid attention to the incident and published the story in its Thursday January 20th 1994 edition. Headline: Agents stage pirate radio raid on ship. We've decided to publish the complete edition of the text.

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"Federal agents on Wednesday seized radio transmission equipment aboard a ship docked near Charleston, claiming the vessel was used as an unlicensed pirate radio station. The move stalled plans by controversial Walterboro evangelist R.G. Stair to sail the ship to a Central American country and broadcast religious programmes. Federal agents raided the 140-foot Fury while it was being refitted at Halsey & Cannon Boat Yard on the Wando River. Last Friday, agents from the Federal Communications Commission located the source of an illegal broadcast after driving around Charleston in an undercover truck filled with high-tech communications gear. They obtained a court order Tuesday claiming the broadcasts were made from transmitters aboard the Fury. One of the four txs was reserved for the Overcomer Ministry of Brother Stair, according to an article in an issue of Monitoring Times, a short wave radio and scanner hobby magazine. Stair has made headlines before. In 1987 he predicted the United States would be annihilated before 1989 and that Ronald Reagan would not finish his term. In 1988, 40 people in Pennsylvania's Delaware Valley said Stair induced their children to sell their belongings, abandon their families, sign over their funds and join what they said was a cult. In an April 1988 interview with the Post and Courier, he denied he was the leader of the cult. "I'm no Jim Jones, I am a Christian and a prophet", he said, adding that 40 followers voluntarily chose a Christian life of self-denial on 74 acres north of Walterboro. A source at the Halsey & Cannon Boat Yard said members of Stair's ministry planned to sail to the Central American country of Belize. "They truck in a bunch of people every day to work on the ship. They don't eat sweets and are real wrapped up in Jesus." The Fury is registered in Belize, according to court documents. Monitoring Times said Allen Weiner, who once operated a

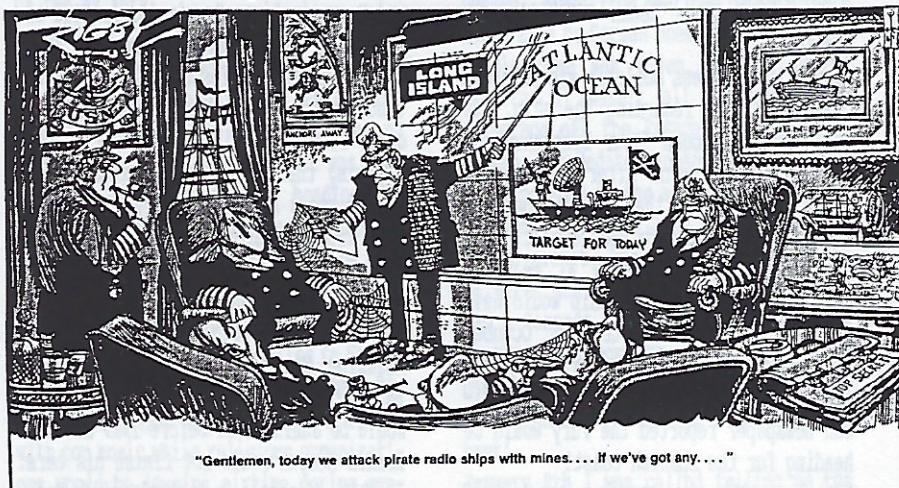
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pirate radio station off the coast of New York, was outfitting the ship with broadcasting equipment. Weiner was aboard the ship when it was seized, authorities said. The magazine described Weiner as 'a battle-scarred veteran of confrontation with the FCC'. At 16, Weiner operated a pirate radio station in Yonkers, N.Y., the magazine said. And in 1987, he was involved with the Sarah, a pirate ship off the coast of Long Island, N.Y., US attorney J.P. Strom Jr. said. Federal authorities eventually obtained an injunction prohibiting Weiner from operating a radio broadcast station from a ship inside US waters unless he obtains a FCC licence. Weiner could not be located for comment Thursday. He told Monitoring Times he was doing engineering work on the Fury but would have nothing to do with it after the ship set sail.

ship inside out. They took everything having something to do with radio from the Fury." Chris also asked Al what was true about the rumours circulating in Europe regarding the testtrm. "The only tests I conducted were in the transmitting room and I used a dummy load. It's not true when people say the signal was aired via the ship's antenna system. Not very smart to conduct such tests from a harbour because the past has proved that even dummy load tests can be received not only near the tx but also further away. Weiner: "the tragical thing about this story is, that without my knowledge, somebody aired a test with a tape containing 1987 Radio New York Int. stuff. These tests were again aired at the end of December 1993 using an old ham tx. The FCC heard this programme resulting in a decision to undertake action. That's

find the words to say more about it. The authorities did not have the right to act in such way. They heard the sounds of Radio New York, reason to carry out that gigantic raid. It's quite ironical all was confiscated except the ham tx! I just don't know why the authorities were so afraid about the project. Probably the txs and other equipment will be returned to Brother Stair but in the meantime the inside of the ship is seriously damaged because all equipment was taken from its position. All was going very well and we only needed another three weeks to finish off the project. Preparations concerning the upcoming journey were planned. The transmitters' condition wasn't 100% but we were convinced these problems could be solved by an engineer during the journey to Belize. Even the FCC admitted the ship was perfectly equipped with a very efficient antenna sytem. Yes, even the antenna towers, insulators, spare parts and test equipment were taken away. Honestly talking I think there's no broadcasting future anymore for this ship. I'm sick and tired of the radio world. How many times it happens you bang against a wall? You set up a station, think everything is perfectly legal and then such a stupid thing happens. What has happened is in my eyes much more tragical compared with the MV Sarah in 1987. Stair invested a few hundredthousand dollars. Stair reacted in a calm way when he heard about the raid and is not willing to set up a similar new project. I think he will develop plans to start somewhere sometime on land. We still have, when they are returned, four fantastic SW txs. According to US law, they must be returned undamaged. As soon as I have found a person willing to use the ship as a cargo boat or trawler, I will sell the Fury which means the definitive end of the project." Latest reports suggest Brother R.G. Stair is attempting to raise more money to try and continue the project. He intends to refit the MV Fury. The ship is already released and back in the hands of Al Weiner who said that the authorities already for a longer period kept a close eye on the ship because they were afraid the ship would be broadcasting off the US coast. He will hand the transmitting equipment over to Brother Stair



On Wednesday, the FCC rented a barge with a crane and removed radio transmission equipment reportedly valued at up to \$ 500,000. "Part of it was hauled from the boat today, and we anticipate finishing tomorrow", said Joseph P. Griffith Jr., who is handling the case. Griffith said it was the government's intention to seize the property-not pursue criminal charges against anyone. He added that he knows of only two cases in which the FCC seized radio equipment from a boat. The Coast Guard and the US Marshal's Service also participated in the raid."

Chris Edwards, OEM editor, had a long talk with Al Weiner Sunday evening January 23rd 1994. His first question was if it was the authorities' intention to confiscate the ship. "They turned the

what I am told by the FCC. I just don't know what to say because I tried to run everything on a legal basis. We have an official license, the equipment is registered and then somebody aboard acts a pirate. Of course they could have handled differently by arresting the person involved and confiscating the ham tx. They could also have warned me or Brother Stair reporting the fact they had received a signal from the ship. They simply didn't do so because this was an ideal opportunity to take everything from the ship. It's a tragedy because everything was taken away except the generator. Luckily we still have the ship but the whole project is finito. Brother Stair won't bring in more money and I can't put him in the wrong. As far as I'm concerned I'm so disappointed and angry that I just can't



as soon as the authorities will return the gear. It's a fact the story about the ham tx remains rather confusing. The official report, written by the police, speaks of a test on 7415 carried out by one of the txs on board the Fury. This would have happened already in december with a dummy load. Already earlier in this story we spoke about dummy loads. Remember Johnny Lewis who switched on the tx aboard the MV Communicator in 1987. 23 kW was the output and Johnny also used a dummy. A crystal clear recording of this test was made in the south-east of the UK. Perhaps Al Weiner is trying to blame someone else while HE himself is the one who blew up the whole project....??

## **RADIO CAROLINE**

### **ROSS REVENGE**

The ship is still moored in Bradwell, Essex. It's very difficult to reach the ship from land because the ground is unpassable. Besides: people are not allowed to climb on board. The bridge has been repainted in white, 'Caroline' is painted in red, so is the Caroline bell. For the first time in almost a decade all generators on the Ross seem to work properly.

If we may believe Caroline station-manager Peter Moore the Ross has assured for no less than one million pounds via FWS Charters Insurance Consultance in London. Quite an improbable amount of money!

### **RUMOURS**

In England there are rumours buzzing about Ronan O'Rahilly's plans. He would have been buying a cargo boat being converted into a radio vessel in the Mediterranean area. To be more precisely: a north African port would be the location where it's all happening. The vessel is said to be backed by Ronan O'Rahilly and plans to be on air by Easter, in time for the station's 30th birthday. The project should also involve former Caroline engineer Peter Chicago but does NOT involve Peter Moore in any way. The project's future is based on the idea of obtaining a licence from a Third World country as protection against the UK government's Broadcasting Act. Could it be coincident that Peter Chicago attended a Caroline Christmas Party in Bradwell saying he wasn't working for

Ronan O'Rahilly. And: he also appears in the latest edition of the Caroline Newsbeat magazine raising doubts about the viability of the so-called Third World option as a means to protect Caroline against any action of UK authorities. But even when the rumours about the ship in the Mediterranean appear to be untrue, still people believe Ronan is working on something new and will return with Radio Caroline on AM (?) sometime this Summer! One thing is for sure: so far there's no evidence. But that's part of the game.

### **RESTRICTED SERVICE LICENCE?**

In an interview with Eric Wilsher on Quality Europe FM (now defunct) Caroline's Johnny Reece declared that Caroline would be on air for a 28 day period starting on Good Friday. Location could be Bradwell in Essex. As negotiations with the Radio Authority were still going on, it wasn't certain whether it would be an AM or FM licence. As you will all know Caroline will be celebrating its 30th birthday over the 1994 Easter weekend.

According to Peter Moore Caroline is also hoping to obtain a RSL for the month of June. The money Caroline will be making via the aired adverts will be used for the dry-dock service (maintenance) Caroline people have planned.

**Latest news:** the Radio Authority has issued Caroline a RSL but with a power restricted to only a mere 1 watt on AM. Despite strong protests from the Caroline organisation that the signal would not reach any of the surrounding towns, no increase in power is to be allowed. Despite the disappointment, Caroline will be on air for an Easter birthday broadcast from its new Essex location of Bradwell, even when the power is limited to only 1 watt.

### **CAROLINE ON SATELLITE**

In the middle of January Caroline was to be heard on the Eutelsat 13 degrees east. During a few afternoons Johnny Reece and Andy Brooks were presenting shows on the 7.74 MHz audio subcarrier of the Middle East Broadcasting Company. It concerned experimental pxs within the framework of World Radio Network 2.

In issue 126 we reported about Jungle Rock. In the mean time it's clear Caroline has missed the boat. Anyway: during the experimental broadcasts the station was

announced as 'Jungle Rock' with the programmes of Radio Caroline'.

In the mean time Caroline's Intelsat broadcasts are continued via the RNI Norway 7.74 MHz audio subcarrier of TV Norge. Every Mon-Thurs between 21.00-23.00 CET Johnny Reece, Chris Watford, Andy Brooks and Andy Miles are to be heard. These pxs are not recorded on the Ross Revenge but in the London-based Highgate studios.

Caroline satellite fans who've been loyal following the station's broadcasts on the RNI audio subcarrier on the Intelsat 512 satellite at 1 degree west are in for a pleasant surprise. The 512 is scheduled to be replaced by the brandnew Intelsat 702 satellite being launched late February. The higher powered satellite is scheduled for operation in the middle of March. Reception of Caroline should then be possible with a 60cm dish. However: for real superb reception a 80cm dish is recommended.

### **CAROLINE ON SW**

In contrast with the satellite pxs, the SW service is presented by Chris Kennedy and Steve Masters. These shows are recorded on the Ross Revenge and are being sent to Waterford, Ireland where the SW tx is located putting out the pxs every Sunday on 6295 kHz. A number of Sundays Caroline was absent and so far we know the reason was of financial nature. Over the X-Mas period Caroline was active: Dec. 24th, 25th & 26th a good signal was to be heard on 6295 from the 1 kW tx in Waterford. Caroline made a rare appearance on 6295 Tues Jan. 11th. Also in the last few weeks SW broadcasts were very irregular.

### **CAROLINE 30th BIRTHDAY PARTY**

As already mentioned: Caroline will be 30 years old and on air celebrations are planned. First there is the RSL for a 28 day period. But: Caroline may also be celebrating its birthday on Sun March 27th with an extra broadcast. Former Caroline Peter Philips is in the process of setting up an arrangement for Essex-based station Breeze AM to broadcast live from the Ross Revenge on Easter Sunday. Peter is of course a member of the Breeze AM presenting team. We are curious...

To celebrate Caroline's 30th



birthday, a special birthday party will be organized at a venue yet to be arranged. For more details you can write to: Albert Hood, 5 Larkins Road, Croydon, Nr. Royston, Hertfordshire SG8 0ED in the UK.

Highfield's Holiday Park located in Clacton-on-Sea (Essex) will be the centre of a big party celebrating 30 years of Caroline over the weekend of March 26th and 27th. The event is organized by East Anglia Productions and hosted by good old Andy Archer and Paul Graham. Highlights will be a performance by The Fortunes and the Caroline dinner (including seafood?). Call (0)255-676252 for more info.

## **VOICE OF PEACE**

Despite getting a f 40,000 offer to give up the plan to scuttle the MV Peace, the ship was indeed scuttled Monday November 29th. It appears Abe Nathan's decision was made because of pure bureaucracy in Tel Aviv. Abe submitted an application to convert the ship into a floating peace museum but this request was dealt with making him angry.

The Israeli minister for the environment has instructed to carry out an inquiry about the pollution Abe has caused scuttling the ship to the bottom of the Mediterranean. He threatened Abe with imprisonment and a heavy fine. What's happened? Israeli fishermen from the adjacent port of Ashdod complain bitterly about the pollution caused by the MV Peace making the fishing in the vicinity of the sunk ship to a rather dirty job. They lodged a complaint at the Ministry of Ecology. The Parliamentary Undersecretary of Israel, Mr. Peleg (environmental matters) made inquiries and concluded Abe Nathan didn't have all permissions to scuttle the ship. Moreover: he hadn't cleared away all oil/fuel. The ministry intends to accuse Abe Nathan of polluting the Mediterranean. Abe, on his turn, claims to have been paying f 350,- (£ 140/DM 310) for permission to put the ship at the bottom of the

sea. He would have met the requirements. As laid down in the law, Abe had to scuttle the ship in the vicinity of the position on the MV Peace had always been moored broadcasting messages of peace and pop music. People disagree about the question whether the ship was scuttled at the agreed position.

Dutch television brought a documentary about the Peace process in Israel on Wednesday December 8th. The programme was very up-to-date since the sinking of the Peace ship was included as well as pictures of Arutz Sheva (Channel 7).

## **NEW OFFSHORE PROJECT OFF ISRAELI COAST**

Friday January 28th we hear the news about a new radio ship off the coast of Israel. It's a ship- the MV David- with only a length of 28 metres (!!) and the station on it is called RADIO HOFF. The first reports speak of a very amateurish project. In April we'll come with more information. From Stuart Dobson we heard the station broadcasts with 5 kW on AM and the same power is used on FM. The ship is anchored a few miles south of the MV Hatzl. There are rumours that Radio One is back on the air from their radioship the MV Air.

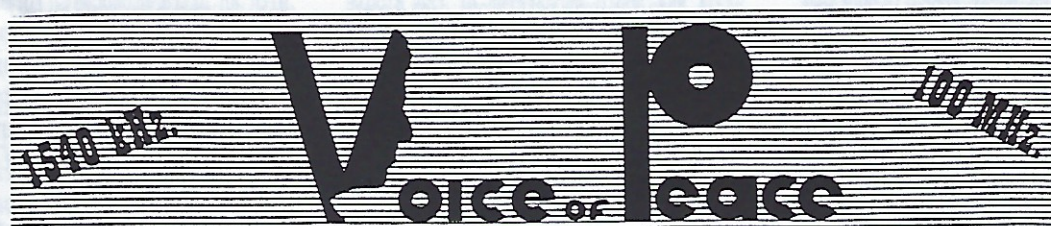
## **RADIO BROD**

Great photos and an excellent story. That's the conclusion after reading the Radio Brod story in the Dutch NRC Saturday January 15th. The story is written by Raymond van den Boogaard who stayed on board the ship. Prior to his visit to the ship, a British reporter named Jim Fish had been on the Droit de Parole. Fish's intention was not to make a story but to do a tour of inspection under the authority of the European Union who's backing the ship-based radio operation. It appears that the Dutch government lodged a complaint. Not about the illegal transmissions but because the organisation behind the project is using the money very

inefficiently. Fish reported that the crew on the radio vessel was doing very good work under very difficult circumstances. He added it was for him totally unclear in which way the money was being used. The crew on board the ship weren't satisfied because their salaries are paid much too late. Most of the crewmen have the French nationality. Interesting is that a number of offshore enthusiasts have written letters to the European Parliament lodging complaints about the raid on the Ross Revenge compared with the current financial backing and permission for the Radio Brod project. Those who wrote a letter did indeed get a reply from Rose Bindy who mentions the well-known reasons for undertaking actions against pirate ships (interference etc.) adding that the situation in which Radio Brod operates is totally different from all those other offshore stations. So far only two complaints regarding the broadcasts have reached the European Union. One from Montenegro and one from Serbia. People who still don't agree with the preferential treatment of Radio Brod are advised to write a letter to the European Commission for Human Rights.

The 'Otago Daily Times' featured a little article about Radio Brod in its January 22nd edition:

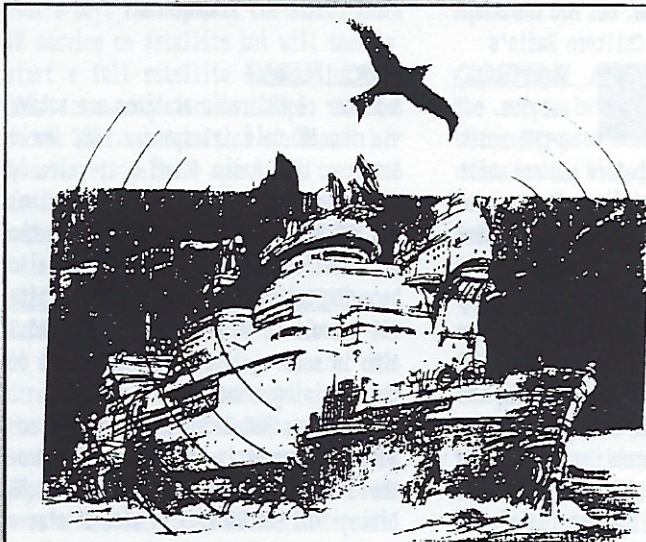
"In extraordinary situations like war, radio can convey the truth to beleaguered people when newspapers and television lack the capacity to do so. Funded partly by charity and partly by the European Community, Radio Brod is considered the only reliable source of non-partisan news in former Yugoslavia, and the only neutral forum for debate between ethnic groups. It is a pirate station, which operates from an old boat in the Adriatic, staffed by ex- Yugoslav journalists from all of the former country's regions, speaking all of its languages. 'The Spectator' (London) recently pointed out that although Radio Brod reached all of Bosnia,



**Offshore News**



it did not yet have a tx strong enough to broadcast clearly to Belgrade. It commented: "This seems curious: the West has spent billions of dollars on a peace-keeping mission in ex-Yugoslavia...yet nothing at all on the spread of info and debate which could stop the war." Britain ought to be in the forefront of ventures



## Droit de Parole

like Radio Brod. With an unparalleled reputation for neutrality, the BBC had probably done more for Britain's reputation abroad and at a lower price, than all of the British embassies put together." The address for reception reports is: Ass. Loi 1901, BP 6 in F-75922 Paris Cedex in France.

### ANNUAL DUTCH OFFSHORE MEETING

Because the next FRSGDX won't come out before April 9th, it's good to take this last opportunity reminding you to the fact that on that day the Dutch offshore day will be organized between 11 and 17 hours in Utrecht at the Oude Gracht 252 (in a hall, called Trianon). Bull Verwey and Keith Skues have promised to attend the meeting. New videos will be shown and there are stands where you can buy radio merchandise.

### MISCELLANEOUS

- \* The former Radio Veronica ship, the MV Norderney nowadays ser-

ving as a floating discotheque, is now moored in Groningen at the Osterhamrikade, Holland's one and only pirate alley... In the past the ships of Capital Radio (King David) and the Voice of Peace (MV Cito, later MV Peace) were also moored at this quay. People of the local harbour service don't even know about the Norderney's presence. An illegal stay of the

ship. Bull Verwey, Veronica's boss in the good old days, commented: "it's good to see the ship in Groningen. But we have been stupid to sell the ship. It could have been used for so many beautiful things." He could be right. In the FRS archives we have a nice set of

black/white photos available in excellent quality. They are yours for DM 10/£ 3.90/£ 10,-.

\* East Anglia will produce a mini series regarding mini countries. One episode will be about Sealand.

\* Andy Archer is back on the British 'Beeb' presenting the Breakfast Show on Saturdays and Sundays on BBC Radio Suffolk. Andy started January 1st.

\* Roger Day returned after a 14 year absence on Key FM in Manchester. He's presenting the Breakfast Show. Last year Day left Pirate FM.

\* Who does remember Paul McKenna? In the mid-80s he was active on Radio Caroline (only briefly) and he continued his radio career on a number of ILR stations. Paul has paranormal gifts and that resulted in small performances for family and friends. This was so successful that in no-time Paul went on stage. Finally the ITV offered him a mega contract. Paul was also on Dutch TV. Veronica broadcasted a series of Paul McKenna Shows.

\* 1994 will see a number of interesting

dates with regard to off-shore radio. During the Easter weekend it's 30 years ago that Radio Caroline commenced official broadcasts after testing only one day from the good ship MV Fredericia.

May 24th it will be 10 years ago that the legendary Laser 558 commenced official broadcasts from the MV Communicator. Many ILR and BBC listeners retuned their dial to 558 kHz AM. The British authorities undertook action and Eurosiege was born. November 1985 the MV Communicator was towed into the harbour of Harwich.

May 25th it's 30 years (!!) ago that Lord Sutch went to Shivering Sands to start trms under the name Radio Sutch. With a very low-powered transmitter he stole the hearts of thousands of listeners. Nowadays Sutch gets so now and then publicity with his Monster Loony Party.

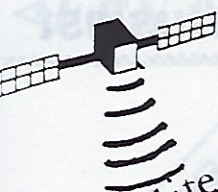
\* At the end of this year it's 30 years ago that the legendary Radio London commenced broadcasts off the English coast. In this respect it's interesting to know that Keith Skues has written a book about radio (including Radio London) which will soon be published.

\* In the same month that Radio London came on the air, the Dutch REM island (RTV Noordzee) was raided by Dutch authorities.

\* And then August 31st. For all Dutch offshore enthusiasts a very special day. The Dutch version of the Marine Offences Act. It was August 31st 1974 when Radio Veronica and RNI closed down. Radio Atlantis' famous English Service also closed down that day. Flemish programmes already resumed August 14th. The MV Mi Amigo housing Radio Caroline and Radio Mi Amigo left the Dutch coast and sailed to a new mooring off the English coast. Media magazine Freewave will organize an exhibition about the offshore history collaborating with the NOS Broadcasting Museum.

\* Last but not least we must mention that our Offshore Echoes Magazine colleagues will be celebrating the 20th anniversary of this famous offshore magazine. It all started in 1974. OEM is still going strong. Current chief editors are Francois Lhote (french edition) and Chris Edwards (English edition).





Satellite Radio



In this edition of FRS Satellite Telex the very latest news from the world of satellite. As always there's quite some commotion. New stations are about to begin while others disappear.

## QUALITY EUROPE FM

### QEFM: THE END

Quality Europe, Britain's only full time satellite popmusic station, suddenly and unexpectedly closed down on Monday January 24th at 3pm. QEFM was launched in August 1991 as a MOR/easy listening station aimed at the 40+ age range. QEFM opened August 15th 1991 broadcasting from studios in Gloucestershire. Backed by the Radio Cheltenham group, aimed to capture the Cheltenham IIR licence which was to be issued in 1992, QEFM hoped to reach an European audience via Europe's cable networks. However: problems were encountered in achieving this aim and the station struggled to achieve a significant audience across Europe. This was despite the station's own ludicrous claims of 7.2 million listeners across Europe. QEFM's lack of advertising revenue led to the large debts occurring and the loss of the local radio licence to a rival group resulting in the liquidation of the company behind the station late 1992. However, despite this QEFM continued to broadcast. A move to the former Radio Nova studios in Camberley, Surrey was made in order to reduce overheads and a switch to a more poppy format was made to increase listenership. However: advertising revenues for the station was still proving difficult to obtain and the station did not appear in the UK listenership surveys (Rajar) and thus had difficulties convincing advertising agencies of their audience figures. Despite these problems QEFM appeared to have weathered the storm. The recent launch of its sister-station Q-CMR and the appearance of on-air personality Dave Lee Travis suggested that QEFM was on the up.

So it came as a shock to the station's growing listenership when station-manager Nick David interrupted his

Monday afternoon show on the 24th January with the message about the closure. Silent subcarriers were heard until Wednesday January 26th when the following announcement was heard on the channel: "QEFM is not operating at present." The QEFM presenters are currently looking to get jobs elsewhere.

The closure left Dave Lee Travis' syndicated show without a home. But not for long: the show switched to Chiltern Radio's

Super Gold service.

Q-CMR split

from QEFM the weekend before and are still on the air from new studios. At the same moment Quality Country Music Radio is now called Country Music Radio, CMR. The station is still to be heard via the Sky Sports transponder on 7.38 MHz. QEFM are having talks with Eutelsat with a view to returning! The station is considering the idea of a new programme concept resulting in more advertisers enabling the station to return on Astra (1D?).

Rumours are circulating that Classic FM will be taking over the former QEFM subcarriers on the Sky Movies Plus transponder on Astra before April 1st. Satellite distribution is the best means to spread the original English Classic FM signal via a terrestrial FM network in the Netherlands. April 1st Classic FM will start broadcasting in the Netherlands (see Made in Holland) and part of the programme output will be directly taken over from the British mother station via satellite. That means that the Classic FM satellite signal will be relayed via the Dutch terrestrial FM network. Another part will be specially produced for the Netherlands and presented in Dutch.

### EUTELSAT NEWS

Via the HBB TV transponder (on the Eutelsat II-F3 satellite) the popular popmusic station Number One FM is to be heard in stereo on 7.38/8.10. On the same transponder on 7.56 Klass FM and on 7.92 Radio Montmartre.

### CAPITAL LONDON

It was believed that Capital Radio would soon start operations via the Astra satellite. In fact it concerns two different Capital services: Capital Gold (AM) and Capital FM playing the hits and more. Both

radio stations would be joining BBC Radio 2 and BBC Radio 3 on the UK Living transponder. On 7.74 Capital Gold and on 7.92 Capital FM. However: early February BBC's 1FM started in stereo on the 7.74/7.92 MHz subcarriers of UK Living!

Latest news suggest the launch of the two Capitals will be in May on audio subcarriers of the MTV transponder.

### BBC NEWS

A number of BBC radio stations are active via the UK Gold transponder. BBC World Service, 1FM, Radio 4 and 5 are already active on satellite. BBC 2 (easy listening) and BBC 3 (classical music) will join the aforementioned BBC stations thus also becoming active in the world of satellite. BBC 2 would be in mono on 7.38 and BBC 3 also in mono on 7.56, both making use of the UK Living transponder.

Latest news: BBC Radio One FM (1FM) broadcasts since early February in stereo on the 7.38/7.56 audio subcarriers of UK Living! And BBC Radio 3 is also in stereo on 7.74/7.92. That means that BBC Radio 2 is NOT starting operations on the UK Living transponder. Radio 2 will now go to BBC's 1FM former subcarrier on the UK Gold transponder. And more important: the two Capitals have to put their satellite plans on ice!! See elsewhere in this column. The brandnew news station Radio 5 Live, taking place March 28th, will also start on the UK Gold transponder. Satellite sometimes can be rather confusing...

### TEXAS FM

The UK gained a new satellite radio station during January. Texas FM has begun regular broadcasts aimed at 250 Texas stores across the UK. Broadcasts were originally aired on the 7.38 MHz subcarrier of Wire TV on the Intelsat 27.5 degrees west. However, over the past weeks all the UK tv channels on this satellite have been reshuffled and the Texas broadcasts can also be found on the 8.10 of the brandnew Travel channel at 11.175 GHz/H. A non-stop music format with a MOR music policy is heard via Texas.



### IRISH RADIO

Limerick 95- the local service for the Limerick area- is the first Irish station on satellite (Nova wasn't Irish when commencing broadcasts on satellite!). The station is making use of the MTV transponder on 7.92 audio. Limerick 95 is a sister-station of the Irish Satellite Network which started operations on New Year's Day. The ISN puts the Limerick 95 FM service on satellite but will shortly start a full satellite service for the Irish community across Europe. In the recent past several Irish stations tried to start (legal) SW operations to reach the Irish audience abroad but all request were refused by the Irish government.

### RETURN OF EURONET?

Euronet could return to Astra at the end of March via an existing service. The directors are looking into ways of funding the 4 hours a night service which the station has been offered. Euronet was very popular among radio enthusiasts because some of the output was dedicated to radio lovers. Remember Ian Johnstone's 'Tendertrip' or Andy Walker's 'Radio Dayz'!! Let's hope the station will return. Could be great fun (AW).

### JAM-FM

JAM-FM started tests January 6th on the ARTE TV channel (Kopernikus DFS-3, 23.5 degrees east) transponder. Regular trms started January 16th in stereo on the 7.38/7.56 audio subcarriers. JAM FM is a German station.

### RADIO 10 GOLD

And then nothing was to be heard anymore. Radio 10 Gold listeners receiving the station via their private satellite system on the Euelsat II-F1 satellite via the FinNet Plus transponder only hear noise. Radio 10 Gold concluded analogue distribution of its signal in December. 10 Gold fixes its eyes on those people wired to a cable system. A big disappointment to the many thousands satellite listeners owning their own system. At the end of November (before the analogue distribution was ended) the Radio 10 Gold deejays appealed to the listeners abroad and asked for reactions. Depending on the number of reactions, Radio 10 Gold would investigate whether it would be possi-

ble to obtain the equipment necessary for digital reception of 'Gold's' satellite signal. The station's idea was it could be a possibility for people to buy a common receiving set amounting to f 5000,- (£ 1900/DM 4500). But in the end it appeared the response was very low. In the mean time Radio 10 Gold can be heard analogue in good old AM on 675 kHz (see Made in Holland).

### GERMAN MERGER

The merger between three German radio stations caused some changes. DLF (Deutschlandfunk), Rias Berlin and DS/Kultur have merged resulting in two Deutschland Radio pxs on Astra via 3Sat TV. D.R. Cologne (used to be Deutschlandfunk) on the 7.38/7.56 MHz and D.R. Berlin (formerly Rias Berlin & DS Kultur) on the 7.74/7.92 MHz audio subcarriers. DLF isn't to be heard anymore via the 7.38/7.56 MHz audio subcarriers via SAT1. On the 8.10 MHz audio subcarrier is now non-stop music. Via WDR3 TV the two most popular WDR radio stations are starting broadcasts: WDR2 (7.38/7.56) and possibly WDR4 (7.74/7.92). The start of WDR4 has been postponed for the time being. Finally we mention that via the Astra RTL-Television transponder the 7.74 and 7.92 MHz audio subcarriers are activated. On 7.74 Deutsche Welle Euro 1 and on 7.92 DW Euro 2. The German pxs of Deutsche Welle is in stereo on the RTL-Television transponder on the 7.38/7.56 MHz channels.

### RADIO FLANDERS INT.

RFI, the Int. radio service of the Belgian BRT, is now active via Astra. The SW station can be heard via Filmnet's Complete Movie Channel on the 7.38 subcarrier.

### RTL OLDIES MOVE

RTL 'Der Oldie Sender' will possibly leave the 7.38/7.56 audio subcarriers of the RTL4 TV transponder. Many German stations seem to have problems with the reception of the popular radio station and therefore the station could be moved to the same audio subcarriers but now via the RTL-2 transponder. Test tones were already noted!

### MDR NEWS

The Astra satellite has gained another German radio station in February when MDR3

commenced broadcasts on the Premier TV channel using the 7.38/7.56 audio subcarriers which were previously used by MDR Sputnik. The latter has moved to the the tv transponder of MDR tv.

### VIRGIN 1215

Gary Davies joined Virgin after more than 10 years with BBC's Radio 1FM. He now presents the weekly sponsored programme "The WH Smith Classic Tracks" between 10.00-14.00 UTC on a Sunday. Davies joined 1FM (in those days Radio One) in 1982 after an introduction to radio on Manchester's Picadilly Radio. His evening shows on 1FM are said to have increased the station's audience by half a million and David Campbell, chief executive of Virgin 1215, said Gary achieved some of the highest-ever audience scores with his Sunday evening show on 1FM. "It's great that he can now take that sound into day time". Davies himself stated he was delighted to join Virgin 1215 and has promised something special for the Sundays. Emperor Rosko has left Virgin departing quietly giving no clear reason for disappearing. A spokesman for Virgin said Rosko left due to increasing commitments in the USA. It's now rumoured however that that he left the station due to refusals over his high programme fees and that Virgin simply couldn't afford to keep him on. Five new relay transmitters for Virgin are currently contracted and underway.

### CONT. from FRS NEWSCORNER (page 3):

feeling. Programmes are simply produced to be heard by as many listeners as possible. At this moment we are trying to arrange a repeat of the February 20th broadcast for Sunday March 6th. Keep an eye on 7414 but mind you: 7420 is also a possibility!! And if you have time: tune in and drop us a line. We count on you!!

LATEST NEWS//LATEST NEWS//LATEST NEWS//  
Just before the close down, at approx. 12.57 UTC on Sun Febr. 20th, both FRSH programme cassettes were stolen from the transmitting location. Strange enough the technical equipment such as tx and autoreverse cassettedeck were left untouched. Despite the loss of tapes, the full broadcast will be repeated on 6280/6285 and/or on 7414/7420 kHz on Sun March 7th between 09.00-13.00 UTC.



# ARTIOM REPORTS....

Hello and a Happy New Year from all Russian Free Radio land!

It's already two years ago since I started this column and it's always great to know there are people who are interested in the Russian Free Radio scene. Thanks to everyone for their moral support. Well, let's go on as usual. 1994 came and the latest edition of FRSGDX (#126) was a very nice present for me not because I found it in my mailbox on the day I had my birthday (Jan. 4th). Really nice to receive early in the morning 'my magazine' (as I call FRSGDX) in the mailbox. It's like the first congratulation. Thanks a lot!

(congrats on your anniversary Artiom-PV). And now some New Year news from your Moscow's Father Frost. To start with I have selected the following report right from SOUTH HOBBY RADIO. This news item was prepared and compiled by the station staff especially to be included in this edition of FRSGDX!

"South Hobby Radio appeared for the very first time on 76 metres by the end of August 1993. But during some years prior to that SHR's tx worked illegally within the 1.5-2.4 MHz frequency range, mostly with QSOs. When the station's OPs found out about 'hobby pirates', it was decided to convert the tx and use it 5555, 6253 and 7500 kHz (Xtal controlled) as well as 4700 kHz. After some test transmissions on these frequencies, the tx was located on the 76 mb, by now an almost traditional pirate band. The output power is 6-8 watts, the kind of modulation being used is CLC. The signal is fed into a 15m high longwire with a north/south polarisation. The plan for the near future is to construct a 50-60W amplifier. There also is another project for the future. Before each broadcast SHR is going to operate like a beacon in the telegraph mode, broadcasting it's callsign S-H-R. It will allow listeners and other OPs to find out about the propagation conditions. The beacon operating during some hours could help to find out the best time for putting out broadcasts. SHR is located in the southern part of Russia: the central part of the north Caucasus. Contact address:

P.O.Box 29, Moscow 109444 in Russia".

As for SHR's format, it consists of modern music and DX-news. The very special service of the station is called 'Radio Technology' and in this px the presenter is reading out a number of useful advices on the technical side of radio (how to build a tx on FM, AM, SW for instance). Up till now SHR made about 6 tests mostly on 3915 kHz including one during evening time. That was on January 1st 1994 when the station fired up the tx at approx. 18.00 hours local time (15.00 UTC). The most pitiful thing about this project is a total absence of correspondence. Being the person responsible for P.O.Box 29, I can reveal that SHR hasn't got any reports since their start. At present time our southern colleagues have only one listener in Rostov (see #126). Let's wish them a powerful signal and patience in the New Year. And now it's time to continue the story about Russia's pirate station number 1: RADIO WITHOUT BORDERS INT.

During the August-December period we saw only sporadic activity from the station. The pxs which were aired were mostly 'Radio Cafe' pxs, which were put live on the air with guests in the studio. October 2nd Igor and I were very glad to meet to good old friends of RWBI, who have listened to the station almost right from the beginning. It's great to see the persons near the mike, whose letters usually come in via the mailbox after each broadcast and who can tell a long, long story about the early days of their hobby, about their start as free radio listeners, about their achievements in scanning the airwaves. Another 'Radio cafe' took place December 25th 1993, Christmas Day. That night RWBI for the very first time told all listeners "Konnichi-wa!" ('Hello' in Japanese)

because the guest in the studio was a Japanese guy called DJ Dragon by the way, it's his real name translated into English!). Despite being on air for the first time, he presented a nice show of progressive and symphonic rock music with comments in Russian and Japanese. Hope that he can be permanently heard on 76 metres in 1994. There's a chance we sometime in the near future will get a tape (or tapes) with pxs dedicated to Japanese music presented in Japanese and prepared and recorded in Osaka, Japan. As we could see it's possible to find free radio supporters even in Japan! All these pxs will be presumably aired on 3925 kHz. I was told that there are no pirates in Japan but instead too many hams. Everything is licensed.

Besides Japanese in 1994, RWBI will supposedly start to speak also in Spanish. So now and then you can hear in RWBI's shows Latin American music but so far we never produced a LA special with only South American music (our "saludos mas cordiales" to Jorge Garcia of Radio Pirana Int.) In 1994 RWBI will certainly continue its relay service. During January and February Radio Titanic Int. (18th Birthday Show) and RWI (10th Birthday Show) will be aired. Besides pirates, we will show the European audience recordings of legal FM stations from different parts of the world (WUSC 90.5 FM, JOQK Niigata 82.3 FM). That's it as far as the RWBI news is concerned as well as the 1994 plans. Keep listening in 1994! Yours in Free Radio, Artiom.

PS In the upcoming edition I will try to bring you some information, clearing the situation with mystic Lithuanian voices of Radio Tornado and Baltic Coast Radio.

## For Sale:

- \* An AM transmitter 1.5-7 MHz, 35W, X-tal controlled, 230V. Price: DM 250 including P&P.
  - \* An AM transmitter 6-11 MHz, 20W, X-tal controlled, 230V. Price: DM 200 including P&P/
- Both txs are compact-built and require an external audio amplifier.

For more infos contact: RPiA,

P.O.Box 220342, D-42373 Wuppertal in Germany



# FREE RADIO IN FINLAND

Finnish pirate radio stations usually operate on the 48 metre band 6200-6300 kHz. Many stations can also be found on FM-band 88-108 MHz locally. On SW frequencies outside the 48 mb are only used seldom, but sometimes you might hear stations around frequencies 7360-7390, 9980, 11400 and 15040 kHz. SW stations have a tradition to be on the air at Sundays around 11.00-13.00 local time. Nowadays stations have also been on the air at weekend nights after midnight. Best night to try is the night between Saturday and Sunday. Most stations answer friendly to listeners letters and rec. reports. You should remember to enclose 2 IRC's or 3,50 FIM postage stamp to cover the mailing costs. If you want any technical advice, the best stations to write to are Meteor, Mayday and Diablo. Questions about starting and running your own station can be send to any station. The main addresses are P.O.Box 220342, D-42373 Wuppertal in Germany and P.O.Box 82, SF-40101 Jyväskylä in Finland. If you use the latter mailbox, please don't use the word "radio" on the envelope. Preferably use the station's initials. Most stations transmit only music for younger generation (pop, rock, disco) and small bits of talk. Only few stations have a speech-based format. One of them is Radio Meteor, sometimes giving pirate news and info in Finnish. The number of stations has been raising all the time since the 'recession' in the early and mid 80s. New stations appear both on FM and SW all the time, but too many of them disappear or quit pretty soon. What now follows is a lost of stations being active on the SW bands:

**RADIO METEOR**, Wuppertal and Jyväskylä boxes. The stations has been founded already in 1980. The founder, deejay and OP of the station is Rick Random. Nowadays Meteor is having an output of 60W (valve tx). The most frequently used channel is 6240 but 6274 is also a possibility as well as the 7360-7390 kHz range in the 41 mb.

**RADIO MAYDAY**, Wuppertal and Jyväskylä boxes. Founded in 1988 by Frank N. Stein and The Technician. Pxs are presented by Frank and Susan

Stein who's the only female pirate deejay in Finland. The station broadcasts mostly on 6274 kHz but also on 6240, 6258 and 9980 can be used. Transmitting power can be anything between 15 and 90W as Mayday has more than one tx in use. With 90W Mayday has also been heard in Canada, North America.

**RADIO SCANWOOD**, Wuppertal and Jyväskylä boxes. Scanwood started broadcasting in 1980 and is using many 48 mb frequencies. Lately the stations is rather inactive. The deejay uses the name Mr. X.

**RADIO BRISTOL**. Add is unknown. Last known add is the Dedemsvaart one but that address doesn't seem to be in operation any longer. Bristol was founded in 1980. Nowadays the station broadcasts very irregularly, mostly at X-Mas time on 6233. Other 48 mb frequencies may also be used.

**RADIO DIABLO**, Wuppertal and Jyväskylä boxes. Diablo started broadcasting in 1991. The station transmits anywhere on the 48 mb, mostly at weekend nights. Power is approx. 20W (valve tx). One of the deejays is Jack de Ripper.

**VOICE OF THE FREE RADIO (VoFR)**, Wuppertal and Jyväskylä boxes. The OP Tom Collins founded this station in 1989. Deejays include Tom, Lasol and Saigon. The best frequency to catch the station is 6240. Output is 17W (valve tx) connected with a half wave dipole antenna.

**RADIO RELAX**, Wuppertal and Jyväskylä boxes. The same OP has been transmitting under many different names since the late 70s and the name Relax has been used since 1989. OP and deejay is Robert Eb. Nowadays the station is seldom on air on 48 metres. Power is 15W.

**RIGHT WING RADIO (RWR)**, Wuppertal and Jyväskylä boxes. This station was founded in 1985 and operated on FM (in stereo with 150W) and SW (6225, 15W) from Jyväskylä until 1988 when a raid took place RWR is still active on 48 metres via relays a few times a year. Several deejays work for the station: Tex Willer, Saigon, Simon Heel etc.

**RADIO MILLIWATTI**, Wuppertal and Jyväskylä boxes. Milliwatti was founded in 1990 by deejay Lasol. The station was on FM and intends to be on SW although the future is uncertain. Transmitting power is around 1-4W.

**RADIO DECLINE**, no address known, but can be reached via the Jyväskylä box. Operates on 6140 (!) and 48 mb from Pori, west Finland. High power but irregular.

**RADIO GALAXY**, no address known, but can be reached via Milliwatti. The station exists since 1991 and operates on FM 96 MHz from the Jyväskylä area making use of a high quality 15W PLL-controlled FM tx. Deejays: Mega Hertsi, Saigon and Lasol. With the help of a former Finnish SW pirate (Radio Royals- was active in 1981) Galaxy hopes to start SW trms.

**RADIO BONANZA**, Jyväskylä address. The station was founded in 1991 and operates irregularly on 48 metres with 15W of power. Deejay is Jack Killian.

**METSARADIO**, Wuppertal and Jyväskylä boxes. "Forest Radio" started in 1992 and operates mostly on 6240. The station uses modern radio amateur equipment (transceivers, AM mode) enabling them to operate on any frequency with variable power.

**RADIO MATILDA**, Wuppertal add. A special station name which is used when Finnish pirate OPs are having meetings and joint trms on SW! Stations having participated in Matilda trms are: Mayday, Voice of Free Radio, Diablo and RWR. Frequencies which were used include 6205, 6240 and 6275 at the same time in SW stereo (left and right channels on different frequencies). Intention is to have one or two SW trms every year.

**RADIO NIGHTMARE**, no address known. Operates in Kouvola area on FM and SW 6240 (40W) and 7379 (40W). Freddy Krueger is the station OP. Irregular trms.

Listen out for Finnish SW pirates as they are not so hard to hear as you might think. Contact **FRS-FINLAND** if you have questions. They use the Jyväskylä add.



# Top of the high-rise hit list

Station FM has been raided 38 times this year. **Ian Gittins** looks at the fly-by-night world of pirate radio stations

**I**T'S noon on Saturday and DJ Keithley lets himself into a disused flat in a Hackney tower block. As he does so, he glances into the car park below. "I've got to look out for the DTI," he grins. "I'm not in the mood to get arrested today."

Keithley is a 32-year-old East Ender who, for three years, has been a leading light at the pirate radio station, Station FM. Today, the station has a new home — a squat. "We'll be OK here for a couple of days, before the neighbours start grassing on us."

Keithley lugs his records into a bare room where the door has been removed from its hinges and balanced across two stacks of empty beer crates. On it stand a home stereo and a mobile phone.

From this unlikely setting, Keithley pumps out soca and calypso rhythms across London's airwaves. A stocky figure in a red vest, his Rasta dreadlocks crammed under his hat, he's a natural DJ, an ebullient entertainer blessed with the gift of the gab.

He juggles cassettes and records with immaculate ease. He announces a competition and the mobile phone rings instantly. There are adverts and jingles. He could easily be a Capital Radio pro.

Yet Station FM is illegal and at the sharp end of increasingly desperate attempts by the Department of Trade & Industry's Radio Investigation Service to close it down. Already this week, it's been raided twice.

Pastor Mac, a local priest who doubles as Station FM's early-morning gospel DJ,

will be joining Keithley himself at an imminent court appearance.

"I've been there plenty of times before," Keithley says. "And in police cells. Last week, they locked me up for 20 hours. This time, I've got 27 charges against me."

The DTI has been waging war against radio pirates ever since Radio Caroline set sail off the Essex coast in the Sixties. In the mid-Eighties, the battleground switched to the inner cities as scores of illegal broadcasters appeared in London and most major British conurbations.

"So far this year, we've made 173 raids in London," says Colin Cross, of the DTI. "Station FM has been raided the most — 38 times. We have to do it because its frequencies can interfere with legal stations and air-traffic control." Keithley disputes this claim. "We're not cowboys. We've only ever had one complaint, from London City Airport. They phoned us and we came off the air immediately."

After his show, Keithley drives me through north London's council estates to point out the illegal transmitters perched on top of the tower blocks. He flicks across the radio dial and, within 10 seconds, locates three pirates blasting out hardcore dance rhythms.

Keithley freely accepts he's a criminal. He knows his daily stints on Station FM are against the law, and concedes that the DTI agents who raid him are only doing their job.

"We give them respect. We have a no-violence policy when we're raided. We didn't used to have. Once I turned up for work and our engineer was dangling a DTI man off the balcony by his ankles! I reckon I saved his life."

"But the DTI don't give us respect. They come to a studio and smash in through a wall! Why? We'll open the door! Or they'll send a DJ home without his shirt because it's got the station's name on and they want it as 'evidence'."

Despite such problems with the law, Station FM has a curious quasi-legal status. Major record labels send Keithley black music releases to play. Island Records gave him a "Reggae DJ of the Year" award. Shops and nightclubs freely advertise on the network.

Even the police use the

pirate. When a 14-year-old girl was raped in Tottenham recently, officers called on Keithley to ask him to appeal to the local community for information. "I had no hesitation in helping," says the DJ. "We don't want rapists or murderers among our listeners. But when the police call, I never know if they're going to say 'Can you help us, mate?' or 'Sorry, Keithley, we've got to nick you again!'"

Unlike most pirates, Station FM has a strict programming policy. Its 20 DJs, including four women, refuse to play any music embracing "slackness" (misogynous or homophobic lyrics) or "gun tunes" (rap records condoning violence and police-murder).

The illegal station exudes community spirit. Keithley's weekday breakfast show has a children's spot, and the affable DJ has a fan club with 250 members. Ironically, Keithley believes the DTI targets the station precisely because of this positivity.

"They want to keep black pirate stations in the ghettos," he says. "Well, we want to climb out of the ghetto!"

"The DTI men admit they listen to us. They make their kids listen to my breakfast show. They've told me in private we're just too popular, and that's why the authorities want us off."

The DTI disagrees. "That's simply not true," says Cross. "The content of pirate radio shows doesn't concern us. They're breaking the law. It's irrelevant whether they're broadcasting porn or hymns."

Keithley and his DJ colleagues never see Station FM's managers. They communicate only by telephone. In court last week, Keithley refused to reveal their names, pleaded guilty to running the pirate, and was fined £1,500 with £3,500 costs. "I was shocked, more shocked than when I got three months' jail for driving offences," he says. "But they won't get me off the air. It just makes me more determined than ever to continue."

"There's no reason why Station FM can't go legal. We just can't get a licence. There aren't enough franchises. I'd love to move into legal radio, or cable TV. Who wants to be a criminal? But I'm not going to give in to pressure and harassment."

DJ Keithley is now taking

legal advice with a view to suing the DTI and its Radio Investigation Service for victimisation and defamation of character. Station FM, meanwhile, was raided once more at 7am on the day this article was written, and evicted from its studio-squat.

By noon the same day, the station was back on air.

A Kidderminster-based satirical magazine for radio hams poked fun at a Government investigator injured in a raid on a pirate broadcaster, a court was told.

The Penrose Gazette, created by Nigel Hopkins, of Walter Nash Road, Kidderminster, contained a picture of DTI officer Les Jones, who was injured during a raid in 1989.

A caption read: "May your bones never heal", Hereford crown court was told.

Wealthy businessman Robert Hitchcock, aged 41, admitted he had ordered a copy of the magazine, which advertises itself as the mouthpiece for a maverick radio group called The Laughing Policeman Wireless Society.

But he told a jury he was not a member of the society.

Computer company boss Hitchcock, of Astwood Bank, Redditch, denies seven charges of unlawful broadcasting and three of allowing his home to be used for them.

The prosecution claims he blocked a repeater aerial on the Malvern Hills by playing recorded songs like The Laughing Policeman and speaking in a silly, high-pitched, squeaky voice — a ploy mentioned in the magazine.

He told the jury he had always complied with his radio ham's licence which forbids broadcasting to a wide audience.

Rogue operators were using his call-sign, he claimed, and imitating his voice on air.

The trial continues.